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'STUDIO 9' PROGRAM DISCUSSES 'STAR WARS'

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["Studio 9" program moderated by Professor Valentin Sergeyevich Zorin, political observer of Soviet radio and television, with Academician Yevgeniy Pavlovich Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department]

[Text] [Zorin] Hello comrades. We are meeting with you in Studio 9 of the Ostarkino Television Center for our traditional talk devoted to topical problems of world politics. Taking part in our discussion today are Academician Yevgeniy Pavlovich Velikhov, prominent Soviet scientist, physicist, and vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and Vitaliy Ivanovich Kobysh, chief of a sector of the CPSU Central Committee International Information Department.

Space Militarization Plans

You know that the second round of the Soviet-U.S. talks devoted to problems of nuclear and space weapons will begin next week in Geneva. The first round of these talks progressed with difficulty, great difficulty, and many factors indicate that Washington leaders have not yet shown a willingness in deeds nor in words to take a constructive position. The stumbling block in the Geneva talks, and generally in current international events, is Washington's plans, which are dangerous and fraught with far-reaching consequences, to create a new sphere of the arms race and use space in this race for far-reaching military plans and ambitious political programs.

In this connection, I would like to begin today's discussion with the issue of why it is precisely now, and not 5 or 10 years ago, but precisely now, that the problems connected with the military use of space have now moved to the fore. These problems are not new.

In May 1972, the Soviet Union and the United States signed an agreement on limiting antimissile systems. This treaty is called ABM [dogovor PRO]. So even at that time, the danger of using space for military purposes was felt. These problems, however, have come to the fore, as I have already said, only very recently. Why is this, Vitaliy Ivanovich?

[Kobysh] The question is interesting but not very simple. There are all sorts of stories in this connection in the United States. They specifically say that during the 1976 and 1980 election campaigns, President -- then presidential candidate -- Reagan asked his main military adviser, General Graham, former chief of U.S. air intelligence, to find something new, something that would be different from anything else. It appears that General Graham found something new, and a commission, a group, was later formed to work out all the details.

All of this comes more or less from the area of fiction. However, seriously speaking, we know for certain that research in this field has already begun in the United States in the fifties. At the beginning of 1981, when President Reagan moved into the White House, the idea of "star wars" was actually being actively developed. Why did the new U.S. President not announce it immediately? Only in his speech of 23 March 1983 did he formulate his idea, which became known as "star wars," a name that is very irritating.

Serious U.S. analysts themselves think that at that time, Reagan could not begin with it because he already had a reputation of being a hawk and an ultraconservative and simply did not dare to immediately begin with a militarist program that included space.

After his administration had been in power for 2 years, an atmosphere of military hysteria was created in the United States, and they considered it was then possible to announce the matter publicly and present it as a new program. But why and what for? What lies behind it and what major aims have been set? There are many, and I will not try to discuss them all; I shall only talk about what I think are the main issues.

Goals of Program

As is known, in his 23 March 1983 speech, Reagan said that the basic idea of all this was to eliminate the nuclear stalemate, and in the future, nuclear arms, and to live in a world without nuclear arms. We will be talking about this; an epithet has already been given to all this by scientists as well as U.S. politicians, who call it the greatest deception of our time.

Actually, the matter lay in achieving fundamental military superiority, in achieving world hegemony for the United States. In other words, to some extent -- I am drawing a very broad parallel -- the story of the atom bomb is repeating itself in which U.S. ruling circles felt that by holding a monopoly in nuclear arms, they could dictate their will and anything else to the world. This is what I see as the main issue.

Second, the situation in the United States is extremely complicated, and although the White House is currently keeping quiet about the bombing in Philadelphia, in its own country, this nevertheless shows in a concentrated way the intensity of social as well as economic problems. You will probably be talking about this, Valentin Sergeyevich, in your capacity as an Americanist specialist; it seems that the United States is approaching very difficult times from the economic angle. Extremely serious problems are coming. One must assume that this "star wars" program is seen by some as a way out of economic difficulties, as an enormous order that will stimulate the economy. Primarily, of course, it will stimulate the military economy and the military-industrial complex.

Finally, there is another aspect, an insidious aim, an attempt to foist excessive military expenditures on the Soviet Union and the socialist community in order to exhaust them with the arms race.

Scientific Developments

[Zorin] Well, we have looked at the political aspects of this question. Now, Yevgeniy Pavlovich, I would like to ask you, there must also be some scientific discoveries that have brought this problem to the very fore and put it on the agenda as a contemporary problem. Now, what are we looking at and what scientific discoveries and achievements being put to malicious use can we talk about?

[Velikhov] First of all, I would like to express my view which, I think, is currently shared by the majority of scientists both in the United States and in the West and by Soviet scientists. Since 1972, no fundamental discovery has been made that could change the realities of the nuclear age; that is, that nuclear weapons have colossal destructive potential.

It was already known to scientists in the thirties that it was possible to move toward and to think about creating nuclear weapons of colossal destructive force. Afterwards, the program to build these weapons began. What has happened in this sphere since 1972, when it was recognized that on the one hand the creation of an antimissile defense as a guarantee against nuclear attack was not realistic and on the other, that movement in this direction was in itself destabilizing?

During this period, as you have already noted, no major scientific event occurred. But first of all, I would like to refer to what we are talking about. On the first schematic that you can see, you can see the idea that was behind the U.S. President's 23 March 1983 speech, the unfortunate but well-known "star wars" address. [video shows a graph depicting the trajectory of a multiwarhead ballistic missile with separated warheads [boyegolovski] accompanied by targets [tseli]] The idea involves stopping a strategic nuclear missile strike and completely eliminating the possibility of nuclear warheads hitting their targets.

This schematic shows the trajectory of a ballistic missile. The ballistic missile rises, passes through the atmosphere for 200 to 300 seconds, depending on the type of missile, and then the warheads separate. According to the treaty on limiting strategic weapons, today's ballistic missiles can have no more than 10 warheads. So any missile can have 10 warheads which are then aimed at respective targets. With these warheads, there are many various types of false targets, and this is one of the reasons why it was recognized in 1972 that it is very difficult to fight against a real strategic attack of this kind. All these many various types of targets fly through space at a speed of about 8 km per second and then begin to enter the atmosphere.

It was thought in 1972... [changes thought] at that time, work was mainly carried out on a system [eshelon] that was supposed to deal with the warheads entering the atmosphere, first in the atmosphere where it is very difficult to distinguish accurately whether the target is false or a real warhead, and then finally when the false targets slow down, as they are light, and slow down in the air. During the very short time remaining, very fast missiles were supposed to hit the warheads. Now this part of antimissile defense was considered to be unrealistic at that time from many points of view.

What is new now? President Reagan, and after him, representatives of his administration, formulated a series of concepts, which were not always in agreement with each other and were sometimes contradictory. They focused attention on the initial phase of the missile's acceleration, when the missile carries the warheads upward. It is supposed that at that time there will be a very large number of battle stations deployed in space, and that with the aid of these battle stations, it will be possible in one way or another to destroy the launched missile. I have to say that you are absolutely correct in that in 1950 this project was also examined and was called (Bambi). It was developed by the Pentagon, and the project chief Professor (Rudgins), who now works in Boston, then came to a negative conclusion about the possibility of its use, and is now very skeptical about this possibility. So what is new? They began to say that the missile can be hit not only with small missiles that can be fired from space, but also with the aid of lasers, with the aid of a booster of charged particles, which must then be neutralized, and with the aid of more exotic means that have not yet even gone through laboratory tests.

Given the lack of time, I have to say that lasers were already known in the seventies. Since then, some development has taken place in the field. The military demonstrations conducted by the Americans have shown that present-day lasers, a U.S. laser mounted on a flying military laboratory, for instance, needs 10 million times more intensity in order to be used as a weapon against an individual missile. There is a very similar situation with boosters. No revolutionary leap has been achieved in this field.

So, summing up I would say there is no justification for thinking that a situation has arisen in science requiring a reassessment of the 1972 appraisals. I agree with you that the main motives prompting all this are found in the political and economic area, in the area of U.S. military-political concepts.

Soviet Position, Response

[Zorin] I understand, thank you. The matters under discussion, the fact that these problems have come to the fore, make it necessary to dwell in our discussion on the position of the Soviet Union in connection with this new situation which has arisen in world politics.

[Kobysh] This position has been very clearly outlined in some statements by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and then from a purely military point of view during the recent interview by a TASS correspondent with Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, USSR defense minister. I shall remind you what Marshal Sokolov said. If the United States begins to militarize space, thus undermining the existing military strategic equilibrium, the Soviet Union will have no other option than to adopt countermeasures aimed at restoring the situation. They may be measures in the field of both defensive and offensive armaments. It stands to reason that the USSR will choose the means of action best meeting the interests of its defensive capability, not the ones Washington's leaders would like it to adopt. In other words, the USSR defense minister has clearly and unambiguously announced that we are in a position to create weapons against which the so-called U.S. nuclear umbrella will be powerless and on the other hand that we can -- and it will not be at all as somebody in the United States wishes from the point of view of expenses -- create systems which the U.S. leaders are talking about so much. It is plain that we shall be forced to do it; and, as Comrade Sokolov has emphasized -- and this is very important -- in our own way.

The question arises of whether the United States will gain security from all this. We have recently visited the United States together, Valentin Sergeyevich, and asked the highest representatives of the U.S. Administration this question. If you recall, we told them that, if you remember postwar history, immediately after the war Americans lived in their country without feeling any kind of threat of danger from the outside. When the United States started the nuclear arms race at first, and then started to include all other kinds of systems, this led to growing fear of the United States. Today, we know, Americans live in fear of war no less than other people; they are terrified of war. We asked whether this new system, when the weapons are placed in space, will make Americans calmer, will they live in greater security. Our interlocutors avoided answering this question.

[Zorin] The Soviet Union thinks the most radical solution for this issue is not to take the course of moving the arms race into space.

Scientific Criticism of Plans

Washington's advancement of the plans called "star wars" has provoked different reactions. Some specialists think this is unrealistic, that from the scientific-technical point of view it is fantasy. What is not fantasy is the reality that Washington is now spending large sums on projects in fields connected with "star wars." From the point of view of the possibility of achieving the aims advanced from scientific-technical positions, what is the position, Yevgeniy Pavlovich?

[Velikhov] Is what was outlined in the President's speech realistic, to make nuclear weapons obsolete and meaningless, which is to fully remove the danger of nuclear arms? To this question, today there is complete consensus in scientific circles that this is unrealistic. Why is it unrealistic? First of all, I have already said that the weapons themselves, which are to be deployed above the other side have to be placed in space. Today these weapons are very complex and are far from being as perfect as necessary.

Second, one must bear in mind that our planet, the earth, revolves; and the satellites that will be located at a height of some several hundreds or thousands of kilometers -- if further, it is simply difficult to describe the radius of action of such weapons -- cannot hang over our heads like a lamp. They are constantly in motion. Therefore, in order to constantly have such weapons over an enemy's territory, it would be necessary to actually fill up all the trajectories of these satellites around the entire planet, as the following schematic shows. [video shows the globe with eight satellites in a single polar-orbital trajectory; a cone from one satellite falls on part of the USSR]

Hence, a situation arises in which it is necessary to fill the space around the entire planet with battle stations. Now, is this realistic? Well, in principle this is expensive, but it is realistic. Now, what is unrealistic? In a very short period of time, in something like 2 minutes, this system must destroy several thousand launched missiles, launched both from the continents as well as from submarines at unknown positions in the ocean, not to mention the fact, which is hardly addressed at all, that this system will withstand, say, long-range cruise missiles, bombers, and other similar means. In practice, it cannot withstand them at all. Even the first task cannot be solved by this kind of system, because, first, it is relatively simple to make a small gap in this system. It need not be destroyed entirely; only a small portion of this system needs to be destroyed in order to put holes in it.

Now the British foreign secretary has compared this system with the Maginot Line, which could be bypassed. This system can be compared to a net in which it is sufficient to make one hole through which all the missiles can then be sent. That is the first problem.

The second problem lies in the fact that this is really an extremely complex system. This system must see all starting missiles, accurately determine their trajectories, and then direct the corresponding weapons at them. As I have said, there is no magic wonder weapon -- which even Hitler hoped for, as you recall. So they need to be either small missiles or some complex weapons of the future; but these weapons must be accurately directed from a very great distance. No practical experience of this sort now exists.

These systems are extremely complex in themselves. Not only are they complex, but they are extremely vulnerable, because they include enormous telescopes in space, enormous mirrors and radars, and so forth which are far more vulnerable than the objects against which the system is aimed. Therefore, it is impractical to create such a system.

However, what is practical? Unfortunately, it is practical to fill space with weapons. This is practical because there is some sense in this. We consider that there is no sense in this, that this is very dangerous; but from a militaristic viewpoint, it is practical.

Threat to World Peace

What can these weapons do? Of course, they can be an element of a first strike; and as such, this type of weapon can present a very real threat which bolsters the capability to carry out a first strike. In particular, it must be borne in mind that these weapons will not be developed in a vacuum but as part of those programs which the United States continues to pursue. They have just allocated funds for the creation of MX missiles, which are quite senseless from a defensive point of view, but which are dangerous as a first-strike weapon. Development of the Trident submarine with accurate missiles is continuing, cruise missiles are being developed, and Pershing missiles are being deployed.

Now in this atmosphere, of course, we must have a very serious attitude to the fact that these weapons may not be the most frightening, but at least are a serious element of the U.S. aggressive policy. Besides, these weapons represent what I would call the dream of a world policeman. You understand that a policeman's dream is to have even a small weapon over the heads of all which can be dropped on them from a distance of several hundred kilometers. After all, you then have no need to dispatch large naval vessels, as happened in Lebanon; you can act rapidly and effectively. From this point of view, it seems to me that these weapons represent a threat to both the Soviet Union and the whole world. I would like to draw attention to another point. In reality, it also represents a threat to the United States itself insofar as development of these weapons naturally evokes -- as has happened in history -- the appearance of corresponding countermeasures.

I would like to draw your attention first of all to a historic example. We have already said that today's missiles each carry 10 warheads into space. They can carry more, but the limit established by the treaty is 10. Where did this idea originate? Why are 10 warheads needed? It came about when the creation of the first antimissile systems served as the justification for this number. In the sixties, the justification for these scientific research projects was: Let us create such a system in order to overcome the Soviet Union's alleged creation of a global antimissile defense system. An agreement was then reached that there would be no antimissile defense. The United States continued to develop a system of multiple warheads, and scientists urged and the Soviet Union proposed that this development be stopped.

Another myth, which is very widespread in the United States, was also operating: It is the idea that today, the United States lags behind and that tomorrow, with the aid of its technical superiority, it will miraculously overtake the Soviet Union. Both myths are wrong.

Today the United States is far from being a weak power; on the contrary, it is armed to the teeth. Tomorrow there will be no miracle at all. This is what has happened with multiple warheads. The Americans thought that we would get them in 15-20 years' time. They were produced within a very short time -- several years -- and as a countermeasure against Americans. Now what are all U.S. military chiefs and scientists thinking? They think that it was the U.S. side's worst mistake to move in the direction of multiple warheads. From this point of view, today's decision on financing the scientific research work trend in the field of offensive weapons for use in space is again a most grave mistake of the U.S. side, not to mention a threat to all.

'Deception Campaign'

[Kobysh] It is a tragic mistake that may turn out to be irreversible. I would also like to add to what Yevgeniy Pavlovich has said. I think that what he has said about this weapon being a threat to all is exceptionally important, because Western and U.S. propaganda is creating the impression that this is a struggle against Soviet missiles, against Soviet nuclear weapons. No, it is a threat to all, to everyone on earth. I think that this is very important for understanding that this is an attempt, as we have said, to achieve world domination. The second thing I would like to say is that the myth that these systems must lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons is very cynical.

One wonders at much of what Weinberger says, especially lately. How is it possible to say all that and at the same time adopt decisions on increasing nuclear weapons. This is planned not for just 1 year, but for decades. Nitze says that all these programs have been planned for 50 years, and that means that programs are being prepared for a race in these nuclear and space weapons up to the middle of the next century, which means that they want to make the coming millenium an era of even fiercer confrontation and a more intensive arms race.

Let us add to this the fact that the U.S. Administration is not even thinking about rejecting the use of nuclear arms; on the contrary, the U.S. military doctrine is now built on their first use. General Rogers, supreme commander of NATO forces in Europe, speaking recently in the Senate, stated openly that NATO reserves the right to use nuclear weapons first. So this is the situation.

[Zorin] So the matter is about a large-scale deception campaign. And its essence is that they say: What are you actually objecting to? We are not talking about attack, but about defense. We intend to fight not against people but against missiles, and this is antimissile defense, and this is sort of good. At the same time as they say this, the potential of MX-type missiles, offensive weapons, is being increased.

When all this is taken together, it appears that the talk is not about defense but about the possibility of achieving military superiority and about dealing a strike against the enemy and being able to escape a retaliatory strike. In general, it is a simple camouflage; and, using Marx's words, it is intended for a public consisting of newborn babies.

ABM Treaty Violation

In this connection, I would like to draw attention to another aspect of the matter which I think is very important. By proclaiming the "star wars" program, Washington is violating in the most flagrant manner the obligations it has taken under the ABM Treaty concluded in 1972.

U.S. diplomacy denies that conditions of the treaty are being violated by the current actions, but facts are facts. I will simply cite the corresponding sections of the 1972 treaty. Article 1 of this document states: The sides pledge not to deploy ABM systems on the territory of their countries and not to create the basis for this kind of defense. In Article 5, the sides pledge not to create, test, or deploy sea-, air-, space-, or mobile-land-based ABM systems or components.

As you can see, it is quite clear that if the provisions of the treaty are compared with what Washington is now striving to do, it becomes obvious that one can and has every reason to say that Washington has taken a course aimed at bypassing a major treaty that was concluded, and this calls into question the possibility of normal interstate relations.

The jurists of ancient Rome formulated a principle that formed the basis of all international law. They said: Pacta sunt servanda; that is, treaties must be observed. Without this principle, international law and normal interstate relations are impossible. I think that those who today proclaim the "star wars" plans should think again and again about the consequences, including the moral and political consequences of the course on which they have embarked.

USSR's Response

Now, we have already spoken about the Soviet position in connection with the problem we are discussing. If, nevertheless, Washington takes the dangerous road of an arms race in space, I would like to ask you, Yevgeniy Pavlovich, how can the Soviet Union respond, what can the Soviet Union's response be? After all, the question concerns complex scientific and technical problems, as well as economic problems.

[Velikhov] I should say that today, in Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Leonidovich Sokolov's replies to TASS, it says clearly that the Soviet Union will respond. It will not respond with corresponding measures, but with the most effective measures.

In fact, as I have already said, the system we are talking about is extremely vulnerable in any situation. It has to be set up over our heads; it consists of a large number of very thinly connected and necessarily linked systems, systems that detect targets, systems of guidance to the targets, and systems that ensure communications and control. All these systems are extremely vulnerable. This is one aspect that shows that in fact there can be a very real and effective response.

Of course, the other aspect is simpler. This response consists of our being forced to respond with a corresponding development of retaliatory strike forces, those forces that today deter the United States from initiating a war. Here too, I must say, there are many effective measures possible about which a considerable amount has been written.

All these measures have been discussed and are being discussed. There are several reports: the report of the Federation of American Scientists, for instance; the report of the concerned scientists that unites a number of Nobel laureates; and the report of the Special American Institute at Stanford; finally, the Committee of Soviet Scientists in Defense of Peace and Against the Threat of Nuclear War also reviewed this question from purely scientific positions.

I should say that basically we have spoken only about separate elements, but imagine all of these elements tied into a system on which the aggressor must rely. He must pin hopes on the fact that his aggressive actions will go unpunished. Therefore, our main task is to prove to him that this will not happen. First, the simple method is to increase the number of retaliatory weapons. I should say that the American themselves propose an answer to this question. There is a paradox in this today. By developing both offensive and so-called -- conditionally -- defense weapons, the Americans are in a way also sowing the seeds for the destruction of this system.

The report of General Scowcroft, who proposed the strategic direction of further development of U.S. nuclear forces, proposes a small mobile missile with one warhead. If development of such a missile begins, then the question about how many battle stations are necessary becomes far more complicated, because it is not known how these missiles will be concentrated. It could happen that at a certain point there are insufficient battle stations. If their number is increased, they must be increased worldwide. This will increase the cost of the entire system dozens of times.

Moreover, the number of such missiles, compared with the number of warheads immediately... [Velikhov changes thought] Today, one missile carries 10 warheads, but here it is one on one, and 10 times more battle stations are needed. You immediately lose out by a multiple of 10.

Finally, there are a whole series of ways: One could reduce the missiles' flight time, protect the missile itself, or produce a large number of comparatively cheap dummy missiles. These are some of the ways and I must say that there are many of them. One knows what has been said and done. Moreover, the most important thing is that everything written and everything I say is based on today's equipment. One can directly produce countermeasures against even futuristic systems, systems of the future, based on today's equipment.

What is proposed by the same U.S. scientists is the second thing depicted on the schematic: how to combat these stations. [Video shows graphic depicting flight path of cluster of objects and of a missile] One can combat them by putting into space various kinds of shrapnel-like objects, and by a direct hit by the same small missiles. After all, it is easier to score a hit from the earth into space than from space to earth.

Finally, one could combat them with lasers, if they are ever created. For instance, Keyworth, scientific adviser to the President, said precisely that a ground-based laser could be created, through which space stations could be destroyed.

You see, a very interesting point is that -- generally without great advertisement and quite secretively -- such a program exists in the United States. It is called that in the budget: a program for improving offensive forces. Its budget is not very large compared to the annual one: $4 million is being asked for next year. Compared to the $300 billion for "star wars," it seems like a small budget. However, to a certain extent, it also reflects the effectiveness of these measures. The United States is now, beforehand, beginning to create weapons that will combat a system the Soviet Union does not intend to create. This is the logic. In other words, internal rivalry is now appearing in the United States between industries making offensive and defensive weapons. A certain, I would call it gloomy and humorous, situation arises where, at a certain point, the United States will not even need an enemy for the development of the military-industrial complex. They could just compete with each other internally. However, this is, unfortunately, only a joke.

Therefore, I would like to say the following: The Soviet Union will have, and has, all the resources -- scientific and technical -- to reply very effectively. It is very important that the United States understand this in time, and that the military-industrial complex understands this in time. Then, it would have less incentive to get involved in this venture, because, ultimately, the military-industrial complex is interested, not in scientific research work, but later going into mass production. Today, many U.S. industrial leaders doubt whether this mass production will occur, because the arguments I have mentioned are, generally speaking, known in the United States, and many U.S. scientists are talking about them.

Cost to USSR, U.S.

[Zorin] Yevgeniy Pavlovich, what do you think in connection with the plans -- generally undisguised by Washington -- associated with not only military, scientific, and technical, but also with the economic aspects of this entire program? We are talking about the fact that certain circles consider that, having imposed a certain path of action on us, they will force backbreaking expenditure on us.

[Velikhov] You know that this is a continuous policy of the United States. You recall that, at the beginning of the administration's operations, Weinberger frankly stated that an offensive system in [corrects himself] a structure of offensive forces would be created, which will force us to reconstruct all our forces, and we would be compelled to incur backbreaking expenditure. This did not happen. Subsequently, they now say that this system supposedly must force us to incur backbreaking expenditure. I must say that the assessments I have discussed, scientific assessments, indicate that the countermeasures in this case are significantly more effective and ...

[Zorin, interrupting] Less expensive.

[Velikhov] Less expensive, of course, than the creation of such an incredibly complicated system. Moreover, you must understand: Can you imagine the degree of super-reliability you must infuse it with, in order to depend on this system, which, in principle, can never be tested? All this indicates -- I look at it quite optimistically -- that you can do it with very effective, and not very expensive, measures. However, I must say that, unfortunately, these measures are necessary. They will have to be taken. Generally speaking, I do not, of course, see any possibility of us being economically ruined, but it is a fact that, unfortunately, it will cost us a certain amount. One would hope that we shall not incur unnecessary expenditure, and that the Americans will come to their senses in time.

[Zorin] The Soviet Union is firmly, and persistently, upholding a line of not permitting this new round of the arms race, by no means from weakness. After all, when the Americans say that they want to ruin us, they either do not understand, or pretend that they do not understand, what is now happening to the U.S. economy. There was a long period of deep recession, the deepest since the war. Then the U.S. economy began to extricate itself from this recession. A serious, and long-term, upsurge was expected. If one takes the last few months, it turns out that a serious and long-term upsurge did not occur.

Moreover, influential and authoritative U.S. economists are saying that the U.S. economic horizon is becoming cloudy, and it is possible that Reagan's presidency, or at least the second part of the current term, will be dampened by very large economic troubles, and it is significant that practically all economists, including government economists -- they cannot deny it -- agree that, both the serious upsurge in the U.S. economy, which did not materialize, and the serious troubles threatening the economy, are connected with exorbitant military expenditure.

Yes, the United States is a rich country, and has great resources, but they, nevertheless, conceived the program -- which you, Yevgeniy Pavlovich, have discussed -- that, as real economic facts show, is too much even for the powerful U.S. economy. As they say, Americans are now trying to lift the rock which could fall on their feet and crush them. Therefore, after foisting a new round of the arms race on the world and on us, to count on a bloodless victory with the help of economic factors is a boomerang -- this is even now becoming clear, and is being said more loudly -- which could hit the United States very, very seriously.

Well, we have discussed by no means all aspects of the problem; the problem is a complex one. Let us now try to sum up, and draw certain conclusions from what we have discussed.

U.S. Allies' Attitude

[Kobysh] Well, I would like to single out the following from what we have discussed: First of all, I would particularly like to say -- so that we, and our listeners or viewers, keep this in mind -- that the U.S. allies in Western Europe by no means share the official position of the U.S. Administration concerning all these affairs.

[Zorin] Yes, Vitaliy Ivanovich, this is a very important aspect which must be particularly stated before we sum up.

[Kobysh] Yes. Despite the fact that FRG Chancellor Kohl hastened to acknowledge that the FRG is joining, and is included in, this affair, the absolutely overwhelming majority of people -- not only people, but even government, state, and public figures -- have an extremely negative attitude to this entire affair. This is, more or less, the mood everywhere in all the capitals of the nations allied to the United States in NATO.

If we talk about Western Europe as a whole, the opposition to these plans is sharp and harsh, and can even be seen in government circles, which Yevgeniy Pavlovich indirectly said, and is concentrated around a number of problems that seem most important to the leaders of the West European allies of the United States.

First is an understanding of the new threat all these plans have for peace and the security of peoples, and Europeans first of all. Europe is small and compact, and, of course, everything threatens it first of all. There is an understanding of this.

It is also clear that this is all connected with monstrous expenditure; and although advertising specialists from Madison Avenue, who service the White House and other U.S. official departments in Washington, are now trying to prove in every way possible that all this will give impetus to technological progress, Western Europeans are afraid of becoming technological vassals of the United States.

[Zorin] Pardon me, Vitaliy Ivanovich. In this connection, I have a question for Yevgeniy Pavlovich. Yevgeniy Pavlovich, why are Americans now striving to tie Europeans to the development of these scientific programs? From the scientific viewpoint, is this a political calculation, or do the Americans need certain skills they do not possess, or the qualifications of European scientists they cannot do without?

[Velikhov] I would say that both aspects are present here. On the one hand, it is, of course, the bringing in of additional forces and, most importantly, resources. However, there are also economic and political problems. The first is that, even in the United States, the administration today has very few allies. If one takes all the former defense secretaries, the majority of secretaries of state, and 90 percent of scientists, they all react negatively to this program. Therefore, I would say that, to a certain extent, an element of bribing Western allies exists today. They are told that, if you side with and support us, you will first demonstrate loyalty, and second, you will receive a share of technological profits.

Regarding technological profits, I very much doubt that this program will produce very large technological profits. It will, of course, accelerate certain research in various directions, but this can be done today in a considerably more organized and clear way. History shows us how such a program was very popular in the Middle Ages, when it was considered that one could produce either the elixir of life or the philosopher's stone, which changes everything into gold. Science was not ready for these measures, but there was momentum from those in power, who all thought -- as today's administration does to a certain extent -- that, if they gathered many scientists, and they were paid properly, they would do what was needed.

It is not so, because as they said then, you recall: The elixir of life was not produced, but floor polish was. I think that it is unlikely that anything more than floor polish will be produced here also, because there are other ways of developing technology. However, these elements, of course, exist in the appeals Weinberger is conducting so actively in Western Europe and in Japan, I must say.

[Zorin] Nevertheless, I would not say that the results of this activity are what Washington expected. Skepticism is very noticeable in Europe and even in Japan, although the ruling circles of the U.S. allies are trying to stifle this skepticism in every way possible, or at least not to have it demonstrated publicly. I ask you [turns to Kobysh] to complete our thought, so to speak, by summing up our talk.

Implications of 'Star Wars'

[Kobysh] Valentin Sergeyevich, what you just said, and what Yevgeniy Pavlovich said, leads me to the thought that it is not the United States against the entire world, but it is the administration, or even part of the administration, against the entire world in this very dangerous and dubious affair that could result in tragedy.

In this connection, I would like to say a few words within the context of the general situation in the world today. This is not happening in a vacuum, but in quite real and concrete conditions, which exist in our new, completely new, world.

This has already been discussed, and it is not always pleasant to discuss it, but mankind has entered a phase of its development, when we live in such a fragile world, which can be destroyed many times over with the already existing armaments. A monstrous, and for mankind, potentially very dangerous disparity between the scientific and technical, economic, and military potential of the West -- primarily the United States -- and the public consciousness of the ruling circles there. This is a tragedy.

A new time has arrived, formerly unknown to human civilization, and it requires not just comprehension -- although this too is needed -- but completely new approaches, new policies, new actions...

[Zorin, interrupting] A new way of thinking.

[Kobysh] A new philosophy. Generally, everything must be perceived anew. All former notions -- force and crushing, suppressing, or killing someone -- sound monstrous today. It is the same as 10-20,000 years at the dawn of the development of the human race, when they killed with clubs in the struggle for food, caves, furs, and fire. Now, they want to kill from space, but the point is the same. This is in our world, on the eve of the 21st century. If one thinks about it, essentially little has changed, except one thing: This is supported by incredible technology of monstrous potential. This is the major drama of our time, which we fully realize. We do not only realize this, but try to prove it to the other side, by all our practical actions and political initiatives, that all this must be changed. One must pave the way to a new life for mankind, a life without violence and war.

The U.S. leaders reply to this with only one thing: No. They are now throwing down a new challenge to mankind which, if they are not stopped, could prove fatal. Our party, our leadership, and the Soviet state have to wage a persistent, and intense, struggle to divert the nuclear threat from mankind, and not allow the involvement of peoples in this new, and monstrous, arms race.

We proceed from the fact that there is a possibility to stop this development. It exists; this is not some sort of idealistic notion, but an absolutely realistic approach. In the final analysis, we believe in our hearts that the other side will also understand this. But the trouble is that they may understand too late. Again there will confrontation, and the world will be unstable for another 50 years, as Nitze says.

It is now possible to take specific measures, which would stop it all now, while it is not too late. This is the reason, I want to say, that we are in Geneva where, as you said, Valentin Sergeyevich, very difficult and, judging from it all, not very short talks are being held. We are striving to reach an agreement on banning moving the arms race to space, and to begin a radical reduction of armaments, primarily, nuclear ones. I understand perfectly well that it is necessary, of course, to create a certain climate for this purpose, a climate of mutual understanding, goodwill, a climate where there would be no place for mutual suspicion. I think the Soviet state is doing everything in order to move in that direction.

In the recent statement, he made during talks with Baldrige, U.S. secretary of commerce, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, said, and I quote: There are objective preconditions for effective and mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the United States in various fields. What this means, he said, is that it is time to unfreeze the potential of Soviet-U.S. cooperation, freeze the arms race, and the escalation of hostility or, more exactly, curtail it. That is our program, and this is a consistent, sincere, and realistic program.

[Zorin] Well, our air time has been exhausted, and all I have left is to thank you for taking part in our discussion, and thank the viewers for their attention, till we meet again here in our Studio 9. Thank you.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON REAGAN SDI INTERVIEW IN IL TEMPO

PM280959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading: "Starry Distances Are Not for Wars"]

[Text] Washington, 26 May -- The Reagan administration does not intend to revise its unconstructive, obstructionist approach to the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms but intends to continue accelerating the implementation of plans for the militarization of space. Graphic confirmation of this has been provided by President Reagan's statements in an interview with the Italian newspaper IL TEMPO, whose text has been disseminated by the White House.

The head of the administration asserted that it is his "most passionate desire" to make "significant progress" at the Geneva talks. Here, however, he totally distorted the Soviet Union's position at those talks and tried to depict the matter as though it is not the United States but rather the USSR that bears responsibility for the lack of concrete results during their first round. Reagan confirmed by his subsequent statements that the United States does not intend to adhere to the accord reached between the United States and the USSR on the subject and content of the Geneva talks, which provides for all questions to be examined there in interconnection.

The President tried once again to justify his notorious "star wars" program, which is aimed at extending the arms race into space and provides, in particular, for the creation of a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements. Here he maintained that this program "does not contradict" the 1972 Soviet-U.S. Treaty on the Limitation of ABM Systems. However, well-known American politicians and public figures, specialists in questions of disarmament, and scientists have repeatedly declared that Reagan's "star wars" program will lead, in the event of its practical implementation, to the undermining of the treaty.

Reagan tried to present the matter as though broad support existed in West Europe for the administration's dangerous plans for the militarization of space. In fact, the head of the U.S. Administration was passing off what he desires as reality. The President was unable to name a single West European country that would agree to participate in realizing that program.

KULIKOV INTERVIEW ON MILITARY BALANCE, SDI

PM281517 Paris LE FIGARO in French 25-26 May 85 p 2

[Interview with Marshal Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Forces, by Serge Maffert; date and place not given]

[Text] Question: Is there at present a balance of military forces in Europe? Do the new Soviet (SS-22 and SS-23) missiles counterbalance the deployment of the Pershing II's and U.S. cruise missiles in Western Europe?

Answer: A military balance between NATO and the Warsaw Pact has been established and endures in Europe. This applies to both nuclear and conventional forces. For several years the quantity of nuclear devices on both sides in Europe has been more or less equal. As regards medium-range nuclear weapons, the figure has been about 1,000 units on each side. An approximate balance has also been maintained as regards shorter-range nuclear weapons.

The new U.S. missiles deployed in certain West European countries pose a qualitatively new kind of threat to us by virtue of their military and strategic nature. It is above all a question of the surprise factor which Washington believes can take effect, owing to those missiles' very short flying time and their concealed approach to their targets. We took this into account when we took our countermeasures. Among other things, the longer-range Soviet tactical and operational missiles deployed in the territory of the GDR and the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia have comparable characteristics as regards their flying time to the regions where new U.S. nuclear missiles are deployed.

The U.S. and NATO attempts to disrupt the European nuclear balance to their own advantage by deploying Pershing II's and long-range cruise missiles have failed. In view of the increased nuclear threat posed to the Warsaw Treaty by those missiles, the Soviet Union and its allies have taken adequate countermeasures.

Thanks to the countermeasures adopted by the Warsaw Pact, the nuclear balance has been restored, but of course at a higher level that is more dangerous for the peoples of Europe. No West European NATO country has benefited in terms of security, while the possibility of a nuclear conflict has increased. The USSR's recent initiative concerning a unilateral moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles and the suspension of other countermeasures in Europe are an appeal for practical actions with a view to halting the dangerous course of events. Now it is the West's turn. We hope that the NATO countries will not waste this opportunity to improve the political climate in Europe.

As for conventional forces and weapons, the situation is at present as follows: The NATO bloc is ahead of the Warsaw Pact countries as regards manpower, the number of combat ready divisions, and antitank weapons. It has more or less the same number of guns and tanks as the Warsaw Pact and slightly fewer tactical aircraft. Overall, an approximate parity exists as regards conventional weapons too.

It must not be forgotten, however, that not only does NATO's military doctrine not rule out the possibility of an initiative in the use of nuclear weapons, but it is in fact based on this very dangerous concept for the cause of peace. For instance, U.S. General Rogers, the present allied supreme commander in Europe, openly calls for recourse to nuclear weapons "from the earliest stage in an East-West military conflict."

The possibility of a nuclear first strike and therefore of the unleashing of a nuclear war in Europe stems from the very policy of the United States. Therefore, it is only a step from a military conflict in this region to the world war which it could spark off.

The desire of the USSR and its allies to avert both a nuclear disaster and military conflicts of any kind between NATO and the Warsaw Pact is proved by the USSR's unilateral pledge not to take the initiative to resort to nuclear weapons and by our proposals concerning nonuse of armed force in interstate relations.

As far as the missions of the USSR's tactical and operational nuclear forces are concerned, they stem from the defensive nature of Soviet military doctrine, which rules out the concept of a "first strike." Their principal objective, however, is to deter the potential aggressor from a nuclear adventure and to be ready to inflict a response.

Question: On what basis could one envisage a proportional reduction of military forces in Europe?

Answer: The position of the Warsaw Pact member-states on the question of a reduction of armed forces and armaments is clear-cut and constant.

Such reductions can occur only on the basis of parity and as they do not jeopardize the security of any state involved in such an accord. In this specific instance neither NATO nor the Warsaw Pact must try to secure unilateral advantages. Proceeding from the existence of a military parity in Europe, we believe that a weakening of the East-West military confrontation inevitably depends on mutual and balanced measures aimed at reducing the weapons and Armed Forces of NATO and the Warsaw Pact.

There are no weapons which the Warsaw Pact organization refuses to reduce on a reciprocal basis. This applies both to conventional and to nuclear weapons.

If the socialist countries' proposals were to be adopted at the Vienna talks, substantial reductions of weapons and armed forces would take place in the center of Europe, where the situation is particularly dangerous because of this region's oversaturation with weapons and troops.

In this field we have given the West many examples of prudence and restraint. It is enough to recall the withdrawal from the GDR in 1980 of 1,000 tanks as well as a contingent of 20,000 men with their combat weapons and equipment, and our willingness to withdraw from central Europe an additional 20,000 Soviet troops in a year as long as the other side withdraws 13,000 U.S. troops from there at the same time. It is not our fault that the Vienna negotiations have been deadlocked for 12 years.

At the Geneva negotiations we are recommending a substantial lowering of the nuclear confrontation in Europe. We have declared our readiness to come to an agreement on the withdrawal of all tactical and medium-range nuclear weapons from the continent. We are also willing to accept other solutions that maintain a fair balance of nuclear forces in Europe, granting no military advantages to either side.

Question: But can one expect an end to the nuclear deterrent, such expectations having been fed by the results of the Gromyko-Shultz meeting in Geneva? To what extent could Reagan's SDI and the "space shield" being developed in the United States disrupt the present strategic balance? How would the Soviet Union respond to this?

Answer: We have never been advocates of nuclear deterrence in our military policy. Neither do we believe that such a deterrence is inevitable. It has been brought about by a terrible reality of our century -- the existence of nuclear weapons, possessed by two opposing military and political alliances. It is well known that peace built on an imbalance of forces is unstable. The more clearly the aspiration to superiority is manifested in U.S. foreign policy, the less stable are the foundations of world security and the greater the danger of war. Fear breeds mistrust, which is a bad counselor, especially in the military field.

How can we reach the end of the tunnel? It is necessary to eliminate the actual material basis of deterrence, that is, eliminate nuclear weapons and, as the first step, halt the arms race which is, for the United States, nothing but a race to military superiority. There is only one course open: to avert an arms race in space and to end the arms race on earth. This must be the objective of the participants in the Soviet-U.S. dialogue in Geneva, which must eventually result in the complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world, if the spirit and letter of the accord reached by the USSR and the United States in January are honored. To sum up, we are in favor of the goal of these talks being reached by means of effective accords.

The so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative," or, more specifically, the announced research program into an antimissile defense system in space, is already raising the temperature in the world and destabilizing the strategic situation. Washington tries to reassure the public by using the term "defense," but in fact, by creating, as envisaged, an impermeable "antimissile shield" and thus reducing virtually to nil the capability of the USSR's strategic nuclear forces to perform their deterrent role, the United States expects to guarantee itself the ability to inflict a massive first strike with its nuclear missiles without running the risk of reprisals. All this will drastically increase the risks of nuclear war. This is the danger of the "defense initiative." This viewpoint is confirmed by the U.S. plans to step up its offensive strategic forces, which have been substantially renewed thanks to the armed forces' being equipped with MX and Trident missiles systems and B-1B bombers carrying cruise missiles.

In this connect one may share the opinion of certain members of the French Government who believe that the use of space in accordance with the U.S. "star wars" plans actually implies an increase in armaments. They are also correct when they say that it is preferable to maintain a balance of forces while reducing them to as low a level as possible. I would only add to that one element of fundamental importance: It is only possible to obtain substantial, major reductions of strategic nuclear weapons and medium-range weapons on the constructive, and only fair, basis of the two sides' parity and equal security. The U.S. plans to extend the arms race to space destroy this basis.

As regards our response to the "star wars" program, I will say this: The Soviet Union is a powerful enough state not to tolerate the adoption of a superiority over it either on earth or in space. As you know, we have sufficient material and intellectual resources to guarantee our security and that of our allies. If the United States proceeds with the implementation of its space program, which is an outright challenge, all we can do is take countermeasures to maintain at the necessary level our capability to inflict an effective retaliatory strike on an aggressor.

Question: The Warsaw Pact organization is 30 years old. Have this organization's strategy and structure altered since its foundation?

Answer: Over the past 30 years the strengthening of peace, international detente, and the reduction of the arms race have constituted the principal strategic line for the Warsaw Pact's activities. This line is still the priority.

From the military viewpoint, the inviolable nature of the defensive orientation of the Warsaw Pact Armed Forces' activities is a fundamental factor. They have never threatened anyone; they have never been used to threaten other countries; and any kind of aggressive or conquering role is alien to them. Their task has always been to defend socialist gains, to repel potential attacks from abroad, and to maintain the military balance on the Continent of Europe. Over the past 30 years the Warsaw Pact's structure has been improved. Its supreme collegial leadership body, the Political Consultative Committee, has developed. It has had a working body added to it -- the Permanent Committee of Foreign Ministers. The Committee of Defense Ministers has also been formed. The forms and methods of cooperation of the countries and armies of the Warsaw Pact have diversified.

At the end of April, at the meeting of party and state leaders of the Warsaw Pact member-countries, the decision to renew the treaty was taken. The states represented at the meeting have never advocated the division of Europe and the world into opposing blocs. More than once they have proposed the simultaneous elimination of the Warsaw Pact and NATO and, as a first step, of their military organizations.

U.S. BLAMED FOR 'DISAPPOINTING' GENEVA RESULTS

LD281700 Moscow TASS in English 1627 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

The Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons, which are in the focus of world public attention, will resume in Geneva on Thursday [30 May]. Regrettably, the results of their first round can in no way be considered satisfactory.

What is the cause of these disappointing results and who is to blame? Apparently, there was a good base for progress, laid by the January accord to the effect that the subject matter of the talks would be space and nuclear weapons, both strategic and medium-range ones, and their goal would be to reach accords to prevent an arms race in space and to terminate it on earth, and also to limit and reduce nuclear weapons. It was agreed specifically that all the questions will be examined and decided in their interrelationship, which stems directly from the objective interdependence of the problems themselves.

The Soviet Union, fully in accordance with that agreement, put forward in Geneva a broad and concrete programme of measures aimed at effectively preventing the militarisation of space, at radical reductions in nuclear armaments, and at the renunciation of the programmes for the development and deployment of new strategic armaments. To create a favourable situation for the talks, the USSR has offered already now, without waiting for the talks to produce agreements, to impose a moratorium on the development, tests and deployment of attack space systems, and to freeze strategic offensive armaments, the deployment of U.S. medium-range missiles and Soviet counter-measures in Europe. Moreover, it has taken a practical step in the spirit of goodwill by unilaterally imposing a moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles and by halting other counter-measures in Europe. This shows that the Soviet Union for its part has done everything within its power to make a good start in Geneva.

And has the American side made an equally constructive contribution? No, it has not. It did not display any readiness to produce practical solutions in accordance with the agreement reached in January. There was nothing constructive in its position, which was actually at odds with the meaning of that agreement. Instead of a constructive approach, we saw outright sabotage of the examination and solution of the problem of preventing the militarisation of space, and instead of a desire to look for effective ways for a common goal -- attempts to push through and legalise Washington's dangerous "star wars" programme.

The situation with nuclear armaments is no better. Washington just limited itself to reiteration of its old proposals, made in 1981-1983, which were absolutely untenable and not at all intended to achieve accord with the USSR. While failing to propose anything which could be mutually acceptable and conducive to positive results at the talks, Washington did not show either any desire to consider in a businesslike manner the initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union.

All this makes it possible for any unbiased observer clearly to answer the question "who is to blame?" It is the present day U.S. Administration, which intends to go ahead under any circumstances with its "star wars" programme and which is merely trying to create the impression that it stands for reductions in nuclear arms arsenals.

Many politicians, statesmen and experts point out that the U.S. stand on attack space arms is especially dangerous to the talks. At the British SUNDAY TELEGRAPH has pointed out, if the Geneva talks are to be derailed by anything, it will be by the "star wars" programme.

If Washington does not want these prophesies to come true, it should drastically revise its position and take a constructive and businesslike approach. Common sense, political realism and the sense of responsibility for a peaceful future must prevail.

BUSH'S JUNE EUROPEAN VISIT AIMS FOR SDI SUPPORT

LD281551 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0523 GMT 28 May 85

["With Unseemly Aims" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 28 May (TASS) -- Military issues observer Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

U.S. Vice President G. Bush will visit West European capitals at the beginning of June. As the British newspaper THE GUARDIAN writes, President R. Reagan is dispatching him on this trip with the aim of "strengthening" the NATO allies' support for the "star wars" program, and "to demand in serious form" West European participation in the program.

To put it bluntly, the task facing the vice president is complicated and unseemly, and as yet, indeed, there is nothing to "strengthen." The same GUARDIAN notes increasing pessimism among the West Europeans regarding the U.S.'s so-called "Strategic Defense Initiative" and growing opposition in the United States itself to the plans for creation of a large-scale antimissile defense with space-based elements. This is perfectly logical. The present U.S. Administration, while covering up with peaceloving phraseology, is moving along the road of disorganizing the process of limitation and reduction of armaments, sabotaging agreements concluded earlier, and unbridling an arms race, primarily nuclear.

The "star wars" program announced by Washington will give the arms race a qualitatively new, even more dangerous dimension, radically undermining the very idea of stability, equality, and equal security and, naturally will destroy all hopes for the possibility of limiting and reducing nuclear armaments.

Only those who wish to be deceived can believe that the "star wars" program is only inoffensive "scientific research." It is just as "defensive" as the MX first-strike nuclear missile -- the "Peace Keeper." This program for building offensive space weapons is part of the United States' overall offensive plan, which is designed to scrap strategic parity, acquire military supremacy, and prepare for making a first nuclear strike reckoning on impunity.

This is why an increasing number of West Europeans have no desire to be deceived and why they recognize that he who undertakes to play up to the United States on this issue also undertakes a heavy responsibility for wrecking the foundation of the process of limiting and reducing arms, the 1972 treaty, for an even greater increase in the threat of an outbreak of nuclear war, and for the senseless expenditure of collossal material and intellectual resources. This is why the visit of G. Bush, which is being made to draw Washington's NATO allies into the implementation of the "star wars" program merits an honest definition -- "a visit with unseemly aims."

WEINBERGER APPEALS TO W. EUROPE FIRMS TO JOIN SDI

LD252258 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 25 May 85

[Vladimir Pasko commentary]

[Text] Washington is increasing pressure on its NATO allies, trying to force them to take part in the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative. U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger has called on West European firms to join the development of the "star wars" program, not waiting for the official consent of their governments. Commentator Vladimir Pasko is at the microphone.

Weinberger's appeal to West European firms to circumvent their governments cannot be called anything but a trick. As is known, 2 months ago the United States, through its secretary of defense, proposed that its allies inform it, within a 60-day period, about their decision to join the development of the Reagan "star wars" program. The time ultimatum, which became known as the Weinberger ultimatum, expires soon, but none of the European capitals, despite extreme pressure, has yet given its official consent to take part in the space militarization plans. Washington was not successful in talking its allies into the plan, neither separately nor, more importantly, together.

In the course of the spring NATO session, the West Europeans stated that joint approaches to this problem cannot be worked out now. Weinberger's attempt to get out of the deadlock by his public statement on Belgium's agreement to take part in the Reagan initiative has ended in disgrace. Brussels refuted his assertion, adding insult to injury by saying that some people are inclined to see their dreams as reality. In other words, time is passing by nothing has moved. Washington, however, does not give up its plans; the idea of controlling space is too attractive. The nation in control of space, U.S. Air Force Under Secretary Aldridge stated, is in control of the entire world. We want the best brains working on the problem, and it does not matter in what country they can be found among our allies, Nitze, Reagan's chief disarmement control aide said.

Washington is exerting more and more pressure on those who hesitate. If it cannot achieve its aims through a frontal attack, it undertakes an attack from the rear. The calculation is that private capital, and first of all military business, will be seduced by profitable orders. Weinberger is appealing precisely to the producers of military and space technology, radio electronic equipment, lasers and computers, to circumvent governments and national interests.

PRAVDA NOTES BELGIAN 'ALARM' OVER SDI PLANS

PM280909 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Drobkov dispatch under the general heading "Well-Founded Alarm"]

[Text] Brussels, 25 May -- In recent days, discussion has flared up with new force in Belgium on what stance the country will take with regard to the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI), better known as "star wars," which has been announced by U.S. President R. Reagan. On the one hand, the series of contradictory actions and statements by Belgian Government spokesmen, and on the other hand, the mounting pressure on Brussels from Washington, were a kind of catalyst that triggered a stormy reaction.

The arguments about whether Brussels ought to accept the U.S. "invitation" to be involved in elaborating the "star wars" program have long been under way over here. The leading parties in the democratic opposition have already opposed the country's involvement in the transatlantic militarists' dangerous new venture. At the same time, a number of statements by Prime Minister W. Martens and Minister of External Affairs L. Tindemans have expressed, as the local press is testifying, clear support for SDI.

It has reached the point that U.S. General J. Abrahamson, the "main proponent" of the "star wars" program, who recently visited Brussels, gave Belgian ministers a long lecture on the need to become involved as quickly as possible with the Pentagon's efforts to militarize space and proposed a specific list of projects and developments for them. Several days ago, a U.S. State Department spokesman publicly stated in Washington that the Belgian Government had allegedly consented to join in the "star wars" program.

When this news reached Brussels, it caused a scandal. Belgians, as the local press is reporting, have for the umpteenth time learned of their own government's actions from U.S. news agency reports. Brussels newspapers recalled that it was the same story quite recently with cruise missiles, whose deployment in mid-March was first reported by the Americans. Prime Minister W. Martens and Minister of National Defense E. Vreven hastened to refute the report from U.S. sources. The latter even stated that the U.S. State Department spokesman's report was a "slip of the tongue" and those who strive to "present dreams as reality" were to blame.

However, the minister's refutations did not ease the Belgian public's alarm. Immediately after the scandal with the latest transatlantic "slip of the tongue," many parliamentarians demanded that the government take no final decisions on "star wars" without holding exhaustive debates in Parliament.

CARRINGTON FAVORS SDI AT NETHERLANDS COMMITTEE

LD251457 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0755 GMT 25 May 85

["Washington's 'Advocate' From NATO" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 25 May (TASS) -- TASS commentator Valeriy Kostylev writes:

NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington has made another attempt to justify the Reagan administration's militarist course. Speaking on Friday at the Dutch Atlantic Committee, he tried in every way to prove the need to deploy U.S. first-strike missiles in a number of West European countries. In particular, the lord called upon his audience to do everything to ensure that 48 American cruise missiles are deployed on Dutch territory. As an argument to 'justify' NATO's 'two-track decision', the bloc's secretary general brought out the hackneyed argument of the so-called 'Soviet threat'. At the same time, NATO's 'advocate' took on the defense of the American 'Strategic Defense Initiative'.

As is known, the Netherlands Government, under the influence of the powerful antiwar movement, has not yet taken a final decision on the deployment of U.S. missiles on its territory. For this reason, the matter will be discussed again in the Dutch Parliament at the end of this year. Official Washington has expressed open dissatisfaction with the Netherlands' position and has made clear that it intends to continue to seek the Dutch authorities' agreement to the missile deployment.

The words of the NATO secretary general, who has voluntarily taken on the role of Washington's advocate, is the best confirmation of this.

FRG'S WOERNER'S SUPPORT FOR SDI QUESTIONED

LD242023 Moscow TASS in English 1956 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 24 TASS -- TASS commentator Leonid Ponomarev writes:

When speaking in a Bundestag debate on the FRG's participation in the American "star wars" programme the West German Defence Minister Woerner called this programme a "justified and politically necessary step". He used rather threadbare contentions about the mythical Soviet military superiority over the West to substantiate his position.

In the opinion of many American specialists, as well as officials in Washington, the "Strategic Defeinse Initiative" proposed by President Reagan is a programme of preparations for war with the use of the latest types of weapons, including space weapons, in other words offensive, or first strike arms.

Referring to the opinion of John Rather from the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment, a well known American specialist on lasers and a champion of "star wars", THE NEW YORK TIMES notes that when the laser system, which is a component part of the SDI, is created and deployed for defensive purposes, hardly any additional investments will be needed to use this system for offensive purposes. Should the need arise urgently to destroy a multitude of targets almost simultaneously, the paper quotes John Rather as saying, laser weapons would be the most suitable for this.

One does not have to be a big specialist to understand that the words "to destroy a multitude of targets simultaneously" mean nothing but the delivery of the first nuclear strike. It is precisely this sinister "mechanism" that forms the nucleus of Reagan's "Strategic Defense Initiative". From its first day in office the present United States Administration strives for superiority over the USSR. As to the word defence as applied to SDI it merely serves as a screen to conceal the plans to militarise outer space. The ASSOCIATED PRESS writes that Reagan keeps talking about the danger of a Soviet first strike in order to justify the continuation of work or his SDI programme. And the programme, the AP continues, is no longer connected with utopian notions, that is assurances to make nuclear missiles impotent and obsolete. In this connection American specialists openly say that the most obvious possibility to use the SDI is to employ it as a nuclear strike "appendage".

So the quesition arises -- why does the FRG Defence Minister Woerner believe that the militarisation of outer space and the creation by the United States and other allies of a potential to deliver a first strike against the Soviet Union, including from outer space, is a "justified and necessary step"? For the Soviet Union has officially announced that it is strictly abiding by the timeless ABM Treaty of 1972 and not creating strike space weapons or an ABM defence of its territory.

It appears that some people in Bonn's official circles would like to solidarise in this matter with the revanchist forces in their country who would want to draw the FRG into the race in the manufacture of the most modern weapons, including the militarisation of outer space.

Those who champion the "star wars" programme should clearly realise that the creation of strike space weapons will inevitably still further diminish the security of the United States and its allies. The Soviet Union comes out against the militarisation of outer space and is doing everything to stop the arms race and totally destroy nuclear weapons everywhere.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD261845 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 26 May 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, editor in chief of MOSCOW NEWS; Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, first deputy editor in chief of IZVESTIYA; and All-Union Radio commentator Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolev]

USSR-India Ties, Gandhi Visit

[Text] [Sobolev] Hello, comrades! Our first subject today, as you will appreciate, are the good relations between the Soviet Union and India. These relations go far back in history, perhaps to the time that Afanasiy Nikitin, the merchant from Tver, made his Journey Beyond Three Seas [title of 15th century travelogue]. They come, too, I would say, from the bottom of the hearts of those who remember, of course, everything that links our country and has linked it in the past with liberated India for all these years, and who remember how much Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi did to strengthen friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. Our relations, especially at such times when the leaders of the two countries meet, are of enormous importance in the world today which is fraught with catastrophic danger. The two big peaceful states are drawing their positions closer together and finding a common language. India's international prestige is great in itself, and moreover it now heads the Nonaligned Movement, whose role in international affairs is growing day by day. The Indian press followed the visit carefully, highly assessed its results, and noted the ardent welcome that the Soviet people gave Rajiv Gandhi, for example in the square in Moscow that has been named after Indira Gandhi.

[Yefimov] When we talk of Soviet-Indian relations, and these relations are deep, large-scale and, most important of all, good-neighborly and sincere, we do not forget, but evidently we do not always stress, that these are relations between two countries with different social systems. These relations really can serve as an example in the world today. They are free from pressure and conditions being foisted on the other side. They are not aimed against any other country and are nourished by the desire to make our peoples stronger and promote peace throughout the world. In Moscow, both sides stressed that they will continue to develop those relations and agreed on the main directions in trade, economic, scientific, and technological cooperation up to the year 2000. Agreements on this were signed, and they open up new prospects and horizons -- very broad horizons, Rajiv Gandhi said -- for cooperation between our two great powers. Both sides also discussed a wide range of international issues, and on most of the issues discussed our points of view were close or coincided.

[Gerasimov] Rajiv Gandhi's visit to our country created great interest, which could be seen at his press conference in Moscow. He was literally deluged with questions: Those conducting the press conference counted more than 40 of them. One of the questions was why Gandhi made his first trip abroad in his new capacity as prime minister of the country to the Soviet Union. Well, his reply at first was half-joking: I had to go somewhere first! Then he added: The Soviet invitation was the first one that I received. Finally, he spoke of the traditional friendly relations and the fact that the Soviet Union and India have always been together in times of trial. Our high-ranking Indian guest stressed that friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union are an integral part of India's foreign policy. The Indian people, he said, consider the Soviet people to be their friend who has always been at our side at times of difficulty.

In this respect, one could quote a great deal from statistics. For example, 10 percent of all India's electricity is generated at enterprises constructed with Soviet assistance, and the electrification of the country is a very important problem there. Also, 30 percent of Indian steel is manufactured at enterprises built with Soviet assistance, 45 percent of the petroleum products, and these figures could be continued in the same way.

[Sobolev] And as far as Indian products are concerned, our listeners are obviously familiar with them, and there is no need to describe them.

[Gerasimov] Yes, and I should like to mention another aspect. This is that at the press conference I spoke of, Rajiv Gandhi stressed that the Soviet Union is the only nuclear power to support the text of the Declaration of the Six. What was this declaration? It was a declaration by six countries -- India, Argentina, Mexico, Tanzania, Greece, and Sweden, diverse countries, as you can see -- which was adopted on the initiative of Indira Gandhi in 1984 and was subsequently confirmed this year, 1985. It suggests that the world emerge from the deadlock of the nuclear arms race, proposing that nuclear arsenals be frozen, that they be reduced, that nuclear weapons tests be terminated, and that the arms race be prevented from being transferred to space. The Soviet Union supported that initiative, but the United States did not even look at the text of the declaration.

[Yefimov] During this visit, the continuity and stability of relations between the two countries were, so to speak, demonstrated. Changes take place, new leaders come to power, but the circle of interests and the principles that both countries are guided by in their mutual relations with one another remain the same as before. And if there is any development, then it runs only in an upward direction.

[Gerasimov] Another question discussed of very great importance for India and for the international world as a whole was that of the Indian Ocean. That ocean is very far away from the United States, and far away, too, from the U.S. trade routes, however major U.S. naval forces are there all the time. Diego Garcia Island has been turned into an Air Force base, and another island, Oman, is also being turned into the same sort of base.

[Sobolev] There are bases on the continent, too.

[Gerasimov] Yes, and this of course is very disturbing for India, and not just India, but for other countries as well. The Soviet Union and India are in favor of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. An idea has been put forward to convene an international conference on the question, but what we are currently proposing is that the situation in that ocean should not be made complicated, that major squadrons of ships should not be sent there, that military exercises should not be held there, and that naval and air force bases there should not be expanded. Here we and India are acting in unison.

[Sobolev] Virtually all the countries in the area are in favor of turning the Indian Ocean Basin into a peace zone, but it is impossible to achieve this while the United States keeps a whole fleet and powerful military bases there, as you said Gennadiy Ivanovich. As everyone knows, the United States unilaterally broke off the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting military activity in the Indian Ocean Basin, and it is constantly building up its military presence there.

U.S. Military Budget, Pressure

It is a course which is familiar to us in other areas and other military-political spheres, too. The White House is currently trying to push through a new record military budget for the country and is continually pressuring its allies, both near and far.

[Yefimov] Congress, too, because there are difficulties in Congress.

[Sobolev] Yes, and it is trying to increase support for its nuclear and nonnuclear plans. The degree to which Washington's lack of ceremony and application of pressure in its desire to force its will on others are currently being painfully perceived throughout the world is shown by the example of New Zealand. This is one of the U.S. allies, and there are no ideological problems between them. However, New Zealand does not wish to allow nuclear ships -- anyone's nuclear ships -- into its ports. So there was a conflict about which there was the following exchange between the two sides a few days ago. Requested to comment on the state of U.S.-New Zealand relations, a State Department spokesman said: We are still ready to hold talks with the New Zealand Government, first and foremost on the question of restoring the right of U.S. ships to call at New Zealand ports without confirming or denying that they have nuclear weapons on board. This is what Lange, prime minister of New Zealand, said: He informed the United States that he will not be meeting Secretary of State Shultz during his visit to Asia in July. Lange told U.S. diplomats in Wellington that it does not seem possible at present to improve relations with the United States. That is just one episode in international life, but an episode that is a sign of the times. In general, however, the militarist preparations continue. Once again in the U.S. Congress, and during the routine meetings of the leading bodies of NATO -- another so-called Atlantic marathon began this week -- they have been speaking about preparations for chemical warfare.

[Gerasimov] The Atlantic week is in fact being drawn out into several weeks. In connection with this week, the contents of a secret report which was submitted for discussion to the NATO defense ministers at their meeting in Brussels filtered through to the press: This secret report says that in 15 years' time the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries will be capable, with prospects of success, to carry out a full-scale sudden attack on the NATO countries -- in other words, in the year 2000.

[Sobolev] Hinting that they are preparing for that attack.

[Gerasimov] Yes, of course. Though I would say that it's a good thing they're not forecasting this attack for tomorrow, because they have made forecasts, at least not in secret reports, but in semifictional books: for example a book entitled "The Third World War: 1985" came out in Britain and the United States and similar things have been published in France. In fact this setting their sights on the Soviet threat that will allegedly grow was invented, and has now been repeated, to strengthen the NATO bloc as much as possible by the year 2000, particularly in the area of conventional weapons. In their view the situation in the nuclear field is virtually stabilized, but if the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries carry out an attack with conventional forces and conventional weapons, then, they say, NATO will not be able to hold out, so let's build up our arms in that areas, too.

Well, of course U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger did what he usually does when he comes to Europe: He demanded that the member-countries of NATO increase their military allocations, which, by the way, he's finding somewhat more difficult to do now, because even in the U.S. Congress itself the Pentagon's demands are now being resisted. The opposition is there; it exists, and it's growing, against the background, incidentally, of the latest scandals about the way the money that's being allocated for military requirements is quite simply being stolen: all those false invoices, inflated prices. A component, a diode, costing about $1 was actually sold to the Defense Department at something approaching a $100.

[Sobolev] It cost $110.

[Gerasimov] It cost $110. This is another new element in these endless exposures of General Electric, General Dynamics, the military monopolies. Fines are imposed; but really, all this is simply an example of what happens, in part, to the military allocations. More to the point is the fact that even in the United States, Congress, which does, after all, in some degree reflect public feeling, is beginning to realize that the United States cannot have both guns and butter, and that possibly they're already allocating too much money to the Pentagon. There's strong resistance in Congress, and the administration has already reduced its demands. We'll see how it will end.

[Sobolev] Yes, and the general drift of what's being written is that the U.S. legislators don't altogether believe the administration's claims that Soviet military threat is growing or that there's a Soviet superiority and so on.

[Yefimov] Only timid signs so far, and it's hard to say what will happen next.

Nicaragua Embargo

[Sobolev] A fairly minor event of the week, to which the entire U.S. press has nonetheless devoted attention, was that President Reagan banged his fist on a table during a meeting with Republican leaders in Congress. They say the banging had its effect: They've started to talk in Congress about providing, after all, the $14 million that the White House has demanded for the Somozists, the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries. With that, it seems the President would also get a mandate for further anti-Nicaraguan actions. Sensing victory, the White House is now demanding $42 million.

It should be said that the banging in Washington is also meant to be heard abroad -- in the countries that have been unwilling to support the U.S. embargo. The embargo has been so unpopular that although Britain is helping the United States to cut off the flow of funds into Nicaragua, it's doing it in secret. Certainly, the secret's now been revealed, and the Conservatives have suffered new political losses at the hands of the opposition. By the way, no sooner had the embargo been imposed than another of the NATO allies of the United States, Italy, announced that it is going to build an electric power station in Nicaragua; while another ally, Norway, declared that it even intends to expand its aid to that country. The Spanish prime minister said his country will continue its aid to Nicaragua, and so on. The countries of the Latin American Economic System, virtually the whole of Latin America in other words, officially assembled to condemn the embargo and take measures to minimize its negative consequences on the Nicaraguans.

[Yefimov] It's interesting that in the sixties, when the United States imposed a trade embargo on Cuba, the countries of the OAS supported it.

[Sobolev] Except Mexico.

[Yefimov] Except Mexico -- though later, in 1975, the OAS lifted the embargo. Now -- and this does, I think, show how times change -- now, hardly anyone has supported it, with the exception of Honduras.

[Sobolev] Well, you can't count Honduras.

[Yefimov] El Salvador.

[Sobolev] It would be strange if they didn't.

[Yefimov] Well, of course.

[Sobolev] How could Washington allow them not to support it?

[Yefimov] But I want to add, as well, that of course, though the countries of Western Europe say, haven't supported it and have condemned it, and though the aid from there will continue, all the same, of course, this embargo does pose great and serious problems for Nicaragua. The share of the United States in Nicaragua's exports isn't great: 8 percent. Previously, in 1980, it had been a third of total Nicaraguan exports.

[Sobolev] Well, under Somoza the whole Nicaraguan economy was simply tied to the United States.

[Yefimov] Their share of the imports has now fallen to 16 percent -- it was 27. But that percentage is made up of some pretty essential things. Take this example: The country has just one oil refinery, built by the American company ESSO. This year, it needs $1.5 million worth of spare parts. One could cite other examples of the fact that many enterprises for which spare parts are needed are in danger of grinding to a halt, as it were.

Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega has said that it's the peasants who'll suffer most, because the fertilizers used to be imported from the United States. The farmers will suffer, the peasants with individual holdings. It's obvious to the outside observer -- from a distance, so to speak -- that the fertilizer problem has been caused by the counterrevolution; but what the enemies of the revolution are counting on is that the revolution itself will be blamed: If it hadn't been for the revolution, we'd have had U.S. fertilizers; as it is, we haven't got them.

[Gerasimov] It's the Chile strategy, or a variant of it.

[Sobolev] Yes, that is, the use of economic measures to undermine a political system.

[Gerasimov] A word or two about why Reagan banged the table. By U.S. standards, $14 million or $42 million to help the contras is chicken feed. Even if Congress doesn't come up with this money, there are plenty of clandestine channels -- CIA channels -- by which not only this sum, but several times as much, can be transferred. That's not the problem.

[Sobolev] Private contributions from U.S. reactionaries already amount to a sum of tens of millions of dollars.

[Gerasimov] Incidentally they've already collected more than that $14 million. That's not the point. What Reagan wants is to legitimize his interference in Nicaragua's internal affairs -- politically, within the United States. That's what it's all about.

[Sobolev] In general, it must be said that the United States does have opportunities for whipping up tension in Central America, which they're doing. They're doing it in part with the help of their placemen -- one in Honduras and one in Salvador. Both of these puppet presidents were recently received in Washington; and they were able to delight their master by reporting that they had succeeded in dragging out the Contadora process and again managed to prevent agreement on a peace document for Central America. El Salvador's President Duarte had some more good news up his sleeve for Washington: They had supposedly captured a ship carrying arms from Nicaragua to Salvador. This would at last have given the U.S. Administration some evidence that arms were being delivered from Nicaragua to the Salvadoran insurgents. For 5 years now, the United States has been trying to concoct some such proof, so that pretext for their undeclared war against Nicaragua could be supported by at least one fact. However, nothing ever came of it, and they've had no luck this time, either. The ship turned out to be American. In short, embarrassment all round. Still, both Duarte and his Honduran colleague Suazo Cordova got what they'd come for: more handouts. In other words, more oil to pour on the Central American bonfire.

Tension in Southern Africa

It's relevant to note as well that U.S. policy is also the main cause of the continuing tension in southern Africa and of the fact that the regime of apartheid still exists there, with its policy of state terrorism toward the free African countries. This is relevant because the outrages of the racialists are still going on. Yesterday, progressive humanity marked Africa Liberation Day. It was reaffirmed once again that the will of the African peoples for freedom is invincible. To try to halt their advance along the path of progress is to attempt the impossible.

U.S. Economic, Social Problems

Now I'd like to ask this question. Gennadiy Ivanovich, if my information is right, ever since the days of the founding fathers there's been a saying current in America to the effect that American man is a new Adam in a new paradise. Is that so?

[Gerasimov] Well, they do have an expression: My country is God's country. That it's the Promised Land, the best country.

[Sobolev] Yes, will the present leaders of the country are particularly eager to put this idea across to the public. What the tens of millions of people who are poor, unemployed, and homeless must think of it, you can imagine. Under the present administration, they're still farther from paradise than before. Now, after a brief revival, the U.S. economy is again slowing down. It has been announced in Washington that economic growth in the first quarter was only 0.7 percent, the lowest figure since 1982. And even that seventh-tenths may well be accounted for by the military monopolies, which are never without orders.

[Gerasimov] As recently as last week the President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, made a speech at the Naval Academy near Washington to an audience of 1,032 cadets. He shook every one of them by the hand and promised them all that they will not be short of work. Unemployment does exist, of course, among young people in America; it is especially high among the young blacks; but those who graduate from the Naval Academy have the promise of the President himself that there will always be jobs waiting for them.

[Sobolev] Of course there are some people in America to whom the phrase about a new paradise does apply -- but even then, I'd say, with reservations. Even the rich cannot remain untouched by the social and moral crisis through which American society is going. Think, for instance, of kidnapping for profit.

[Yefimov] In the United States, of course -- who lives well there? Of course the rich live well. They live in smart houses. These houses are guarded, but still they cannot isolate themselves from society. The high level of crime means that even the rich are afraid to go outside.

[Sobolev] Or take drug addiction: Spiritual bankruptcy makes the young generation of rich people no less susceptible than the absence of a future in life makes young poor people susceptible to it. Legal business carries its share of the responsibility for the fact that under its protection an illegal business flourishes. Last year the income of drug dealers reached $110 billion. Who in a bourgeois state will raise his hand against such a sum?

The news agency of the ABC television company and THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper carried out a poll of Americans. Of those polled, 28 percent -- that is, almost every third person -- reported that they had taken drugs. People are seeking oblivion from the American paradise.

A no less impressive illustration of the aphorism about this paradise was the brutal massacre by U.S. police of members of the Move religious sect in Philadelphia. As is known, more than 60 buildings were burned and 11 people were killed, including women and 4 children. The U.S. press is looking for justification for this monstrous crime, which was carried out at the authorities' bidding. Readers are told that the sect called for a return to nature, that its members ate only vegetarian food, and mainly raw, at that, and that they also had habits which were inconvenient for their neighbors. However much the apologists of the U.S. paradise try, there must be scarcely a reader who can find it conceivable that the police thought they should bomb and burn houses where there were women and children.

[Yefimov] Yes, in the whole history of the United States, bombs have fallen on its territory only twice. The first time was in 1921 in Oklahoma State, when the blacks rebelled, and the local authorities called in the Air Force. The rebellion was squashed. The second time was 10 days ago, and again against blacks, who were being forcibly evicted from the house in which they lived in Philadelphia. The tragedy in Philadelphia has been reported in detail in our country, and shown on television, and there is evidently no need to recall how and why it all happened. But here is what I would like to draw attention to today.

Let us imagine the improbable. Imagine that a bomb is dropped on a house in another country toward which the White House is not favorably disposed. How many statements and protests would already have been signed in Washington -- on behalf of Congress, and on behalf of the White House, and on behalf of God knows who. Over there they love to follow human rights -- in other countries; human rights by their definition, it goes without saying. But how did the U.S. legislators and Administration react to the unprecedented massacre in Philadelphia -- in other words, to the observance of human rights in their own country? They didn't react at all. They just say nothing. Only U.S. Attorney General Meese uttered the words: A good example that ought to be noted. Monstrous words, without doubt. Yet nobody has checked the attorney general or put him in his place to this day. And apparently they're not going to.

Soviet-U.S. Trade

[Sobolev] To continue our program, I would like to draw attention to an event from another sphere, that of economic relations. This week there was a session of the Soviet-American trade commission. Malcolm Baldrige, the U.S. commerce secretary, visited us here, and in itself this visit can be characterized as some kind of progress -- or, to put it more mildly, some kind of movement -- because there had been a long interval of many years, 7 years, when this commission did not convene. This was the eighth session. So it may be said that it had a certain symbolic importance; and symbols also play a part in politics. It may also be mentioned that Caspar Weinberger, the defense secretary, literally grabbed the coattails of the commerce secretary and tried to prove that he shouldn't go, that there was no need for it, and yet nonetheless he did go. Then, the Pepsi Cola Company has just announced that it has renewed its agreement with the Soviet Union.

There are of course many obstacles in the way of Soviet-American trade. I'll just outline them here. One of the obstacles: We need most-favored nation status. This is an old issue.

[Sobolev] By the way, this certainly does not mean being most favored: It is the status enjoyed by the overwhelming majority of the U.S. trading partners.

[Gerasimov] It just means normal trade.

[Yefimov] Yes, normal trade. It means that Soviet goods should be competitive with comparable goods from other countries. That is, they should not be subject to higher duties.

Another problem is the endless embargoes: embargoes on this, on that, on the pretext that it is of military significance. This brings us to the third obstacle: A guarantee from U.S. firms that they will fulfill orders, because sometimes the mood changes in official Washington, and a firm that has agreed to carry out some order suddenly finds it cannot fulfill the order because suddenly there is an embargo. These obstacles continue to exist. However, I repeat, in itself the Moscow session of the intergovernmental Soviet-American trade commission was of course not a bad thing.

Socialist Community's Cohesion

[Sobolev] To conclude our talk, comrades, I would like to turn to one of the most important factors securing both peace and social progress on earth: the socialist community, its unity and cooperation. In recent days there have been several events underlining the stability of the development of the bonds of friendship among us. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium unanimously ratified the protocol on the extension of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance -- that is, the Warsaw Pact -- which was signed in Warsaw at the end of April. As is known, the top party and state figures of the pact's participating states gathered in the Polish capital at that time. Their unanimous decision to extend the Warsaw Pact once again demonstrated with great persuasiveness the will and determination of the allied states to strengthen their unity and cohesion, to defend jointly the positions of socialism in the world arena, and to seek to secure a reliable peace in Europe and the whole world.

The pact has been extended for 20 years, with a subsequent prolongation of a further 10 years. This decision of the fraternal countries is a natural and carefully weighed reaction to the dangerous course of the United States and the NATO states that follow it. Commensurate with the military threat posed by the NATO bloc, the participating states of the Warsaw Pact, as their leaders have stated, intend to continue to take the necessary measures to maintain their collective defense capability at a proper level. At the same time, they put forward a realistic program to eliminate the danger of war and curb the arms race. The participants of the Warsaw Pact have always favored the simultaneous dissolution of their alliance and the North Atlantic bloc, and as a first step, of their military organizations. Meanwhile, the extension of the pact ensures the stability and durability of the alliance of socialist states and creates the necessary long-term conditions for the development of their all-around cooperation. This step meets the expectations of all who cherish the cause of peace.

One other aspect of the cooperation between the socialist countries found its expression in a new form of interaction between the fraternal parties of the CEMA countries. A conference was held in Moscow of secretaries of the central committees of these parties. They exchanged opinions on a broad spectrum of questions about the direction of party work to raise the efficiency of the socialist economy. The conference was of great importance for consolidating the unity of the socialist community and strengthening collective work in developing cooperation.

Also of great importance for the consolidation of our alliance are cultural links. Here are fresh examples of this: USSR Culture Days in the GDR, and Vietnam Culture Days in the Soviet Union. This kind of exchange leads to a cementing of the spiritual affinity and ideological cohesion of the countries of the socialist community. I would also like to stress the influence of these events on the course of development of the international situation. Its development is a complex process, but this aspect of it is undoubtedly one of the most important and decisive. It gives us confidence in a peaceful tomorrow.

On that note, comrades, we end our program. Thank you for your attention. All the best.

PRAVDA ON GANDHI VISIT, GORBACHEV ASIAN PROPOSALS

PM280331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 85 First Edition p 4

[Boris Averchenko article: "International Review"]

[Text] Community's Mighty Strength

The world socialist system, which exerts an immense influence on the entire course of mankind's development and its present and future, is growing stronger with each passing year. Rallied in a single alliance of fraternal peoples, wherein relations are founded, according to V.I. Lenin's behest, on complete trust, equality, unity, and voluntary consent, the community countries are dynamically increasing their economic, scientific, and technical potential. In terms of output and national income growth rates, they are substantially ahead of the developed capitalist states.

The fraternal countries have set themselves large-scale tasks: achieving a decisive turning point in transferring the economy onto the path of intensive development and reaching the most front-ranking scientific and technical positions and the highest world standards of social labor productivity in the shortest possible time, and ensuring the further growth of the working people's prosperity. Pooling efforts and resources, exchanging achievements and experience, and deepening integration ties allows them to consistently implement the plans specified.

Readers' letters to the PRAVDA editorial office ask how working people in the community states' industry and agriculture are implementing their plan targets. It is worth noting that the last unusually severe winter created considerable difficulties in a number of fraternal countries as well. Additional expenditures of energy, fuel, raw materials, and other physical resources were required. Certain enterprises lagged behind in the fulfillment of yearly targets. But recently, as the fraternal countries' press is reporting, the situation has notably improved. Labor collectives, mounting shock labor stints, are persistently building up their production rates and eliminating the lags that had been permitted to occur.

Thus, by the start of May the GDR's industry was 2 days ahead of the plan targets. Over the last 4 months, goods output in the Republic's industry increased 4.3 percent, 7.5 percent in terms of net output, in comparison with the same period last year.

Relying on help from friends, Poland's national economy is overcoming the difficulties that had previously arisen. The Polish Main Statistical Administration reports that the dynamics of industrial output growth in the first quarter, and particularly in April of this year, were higher than in the same period last year. Rural working people have been successfully conducting the sowing.

New heights have been stormed in Czechoslovakia. Total gross industrial output in the first 4 months of this year rose by 3.7 percent in comparison with the same period last year. Steps forward in economic development have been taken by the working people of Mongolia, Vietnam, Romania, and other countries.

The working people of the community states face many major tasks, jobs, and achievements. Paramount among these is the implementation of the decisions of the CEMA countries' economic summit, which were aimed at developing all-around cooperation and deepening integration ties. This process is now being accelerated anew.

The conference of the secretaries of the Central Committees of the CEMA countries' fraternal parties held in Moscow last week examined questions of increasing collective work to develop cooperation and exchange experience of economic building.

It was noted that all the fraternal countries are defining the prospects for further all-around progress and improving socialist society up to 1990 and right through the start of the 21st century. This work is being conducted on the basis of party congress decisions, taking account of the main avenues for long-term strategy agreed upon at the economic summit.

Expanding and deepening the fraternal states' collaboration in every possible way is a vital need, law, and guarantee of their successful progress along the socialist path. This is also persistently required by the community's common interests, the needs of each country's socioeconomic development, and the features of the world situation.

On the Upswing

A significant event in international life in the last few days has been the official friendly visit to our country by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Soviet-Indian talks and summits held in Moscow. Held in an atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding, these talks left a tangible mark on the traditional friendly ties between the two countries and were an important landmark along the road of their further development and deepening. During the talks, an extensive exchange of opinions was held on key questions of Soviet-Indian cooperation and current international problems. Profound satisfaction was expressed at the high level, effectiveness, and multifaceted nature of Soviet-Indian relations, which have been developing for many years now on the upswing.

These friendly relations, which have stood the test of time, are built on the basis of equal rights and mutual respect and on the coincidence or proximity of the two countries' positions on the fundamental problems of the day. They are based on the firm foundation of the Treaty on Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation between the Soviet Union and India, on sympathy and trust, and, as Indira Gandhi graphically put it, on the "interweaving of the ardent hearts of two creator peoples."

Soviet-Indian relations have deep roots and rich traditions. The Soviet Union has consistently supported India at all stages of its struggle to strengthen its independence and its independent path of development, has shared experience, and has given aid in creating the foundations of heavy industry. Suffice it to say that more than 70 industrial projects have been built in India with Soviet economic and technical assistance.

Bilateral trade is developing dynamically, mutually advantageous exchanges in the sphere of science and agriculture are expanding, ties in the sphere of education and cadre training are growing stronger, and our peoples' interest in each other's rich culture is increasing.

The high-ranking guest expressed profound gratitude for the substantial and principled support that the Soviet Union gives India in developing its economy. "We are striving to rapidly expand this cooperation," he said in his dinner speech at the Great Kremlin Palace. "We are interested in the stable and long-term development of trade and economic ties, taking account of the needs, limitations, and potential of our two countries' economies. It is necessary to create new spheres and mechanisms of cooperation."

The talks ended with the adoption of important documents of principled importance for the further expansion and deepening of mutually useful ties between the two countries.

Soviet-Indian friendship and extensive cooperation is a vivid example of the equal and mutually advantageous relations between the Soviet Union and countries that have won their freedom from colonial fetters of the Soviet Union's fidelity to the Leninist behest of giving those countries selfless aid.

They convincingly show how fruitfully and strongly its ties can develop with states with different social systems if they are guided by the ideals of peace and the principles of mutual respect and equitable cooperation.

During the discussion of the world situation at the talks, concern was expressed at the persisting international tension, the unending arms race -- particularly the nuclear arms race -- and the growth of the danger of its spread to space.

The top-priority main task today is to block the path to a nuclear war, and all the peoples' efforts must be directed to this end. That is the united opinion of the USSR and India. Speaking of the Soviet Union's peace-loving and constructive policy, the Indian head of government positively assessed the Soviet initiatives aimed at resolving the problems of disarmament and improving the international situation. The Soviet side expressed support for the initiatives by the heads of state and governments of the six countries representing the world's four continents -- India, Argentina, Greece, Mexico, Tanzania, and Sweden -- who advocated ending the nuclear arms race and ultimately ridding nuclear weapons from mankind's life.

There was an extensive exchange of opinions on the problems of strengthening peace and security in Asia and on the explosive situation in the Indian Ocean region, which is being whipped up by U.S. imperialism's expansionist policy, and on turning this region into a zone of peace. The USSR and India again pointed to the need to immediately settle urgent problems here through political means and by way of talks in the interests of protecting the sovereign rights of the region's states and of strengthening peace.

Commenting on the results of the Soviet-Indian talks, the foreign press is noting that they are providing a new boost to the deepening of cooperation between the two countries and will promote an improvement in the political atmosphere in the world and the galvanization of the peace-loving forces' struggle to strengthen international security.

Specific Actions Are the Main Thing

The interviw by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, with the Indian PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) agency and his speech at the Kremlin dinner in honor of the high-ranking Indian guest, both published this week, have triggered a broad response in the world. The world public sees them as new and convincing confirmation of the USSR's consistent peace-loving foreign policy and the constructive approach of the CPSU and the Soviet Government to the resolution of complex problems of international relations.

The Land of the Soviets and its allies do not seek superiority on earth or in space. However, they will not permit violations of military-strategic parity and will do everything necessary to defend their vital interests. At the same time, they will continue to make unremitting efforts aimed at curbing the arms race, preventing the militarization of space, and removing the threat of nuclear war. Pointing to this, observers are spotlighting the words of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee that the problem of the militarization of space concerns the interests of all countries and peoples; it leaves no one untouched. All peace loving states must speak out against this new danger before it is too late and before an irreversible situation is created.

The numerous international responses devote particular importance to the new peace initiatives put forward by the Soviet leader. The mass media are focusing on the proposal concretized by him on declaring a moratorium on any nuclear explosions to remain in operation until the conclusion of a treaty on the complete and total prohibition of nuclear weapons tests.

The USSR proposes introducing this moratorium effective 6 August 1985, that is, from the 40th anniversary of the tragic dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima, or even earlier. The USSR is also ready to immediately resume talks on completely prohibiting nuclear weapons tests, talks which, as is well known, were broken off through the fault of the United States.

In condemning the imperialist powers' attempts to interfere in the liberated countries' affairs, the Soviet leader, observers are noting, has reaffirmed that the USSR advocates the elimination of seats of tension and the peaceful settlement of a number of conflicts in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This would be promoted by the adoption by each permanent member of the UN Security Council of pledges to strictly observe the principles of noninterference and the nonuse of force or the threat of force in relations with the countries of those continents and not to involve them in military blocs. The Soviet Union is prepared to make such a commitment.

Many commentaries are devoted to the statements by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on the questions of ensuring peace and security in Asia. The Soviet leader, the newspaper THE TIMES OF INDIA writes, has posed the question: Should we not, taking into account European experience to a certain extent, think about an overall, comprehensive approach to the problems of security in Asia and the possible pooling of the Asian states' efforts in this direction up to and including the holding in the near future of an all-Asian forum for jointly seeking constructive solutions?

Commenting on the Soviet proposal on the problem of security in Asia, Japan's MAINICHI notes that "there is no reason to oppose holding a forum to exchange opinions and seek constructive solutions to the questions of security in Asia."

As is clear, the past week has been new and convincing confirmation of the active and tireless foreign policy activity of the Land of the Soviets aimed at removing the threat of nuclear war. However, the leaders of the United States and NATO, unfortunately, remain deaf to these sensible appeals and proposals. The NATO bloc politicians and generals, urged on by the military-industrial complex, are rushing to implement their sinister plans for preparing for a new war. This is graphically attested to by the recent sessions of the leading NATO organs. Under the false pretexts of "achieving equality" and combating the "Soviet threat," the ringleaders of this aggressive bloc approved an extensive militarist program intended for many years to come envisaging the buildup both of nuclear and conventional arms and improvements to chemical weapons. Further increases in military spending are planned. The Atlanticists have decided to continue deploying the new U.S. first-strike nuclear missile weapons in West Europe in line with the schedule it has set.

Imperialism's militarist circles, above all, U.S. circles, are continuing their course of political and military confrontation and preparations for war. No fiction and demagogic arguments by the U.S. ringleaders about "ensuring peace" in the world can hide the following simple truth from the Soviet people and from all the world's honest people: Talks on disarmament and the arms race are incompatible. We will not allow ourselves to be deceived by a deliberate lie!

The peoples' vital interests require that military conflagration must not be permitted to erupt. Wrecking the plans of the devotees of exacerbating international relations and building up the arms race and giving them a resolute rebuff is the common task for all the world's peace-loving forces.

REAGAN'S TALK OF PEACE TERMED 'BLASPHEMY'

PM281039 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Korionov article under the rubric "Political Observer's Notes": "When They Pray For Peace..."]

[Text] The READER'S DIGEST magazine, one of the U.S. press' reactionary organs, once stated sadly that the "old myths" that were present for many years in U.S. politicians' speeches had "stopped being worked on, but effective new myths have not been created." It proclaimed: "New myths are needed for modern man." We must give the present Washington administration its due; it spares neither effort nor dollars to create for itself an image which is more or less acceptable in a world where the overwhelming majority of the population is passionately striving for a really just and lasting peace.

"I want mankind to remember me as the man who saved the world from the threat of nuclear war," the current head of the White House proclaims. The depths of the Oval Office sometimes issue a flurry of proclamations intended to confirm its master's love of peace. The latest evidence of that was the presidential proclamation declaring 27 May 1985 as "day of prayer for everlasting peace."

Presenting themselves as peacemakers, the Washington politicians do not balk at downright blasphemy. Thus, "Peace is our profession" is the slogan of the U.S. Strategic Air Command, the atom bomb that destroyed Hiroshima was affectionately termed "Little Boy," and the MX missile, that first-strike weapon, has been given the name "Peacekeeper." The U.S. Marines who invaded Lebanon were presented as "peace forces," the cutthroats who landed in Grenada were also termed "soldiers of peace," and the administration's proposals aimed at escalating aggression against Nicaragua are presented by the White House as a "peace plan."

However, we need only refer to the action accompanying the administration's proclamation to see the true picture. While the proclamation calling on Americans to prepare for "general prayer for everlasting peace" was being signed in the White House, the government was making desperate efforts to make Congress vote through the Pentagon's appropriations for the next fiscal year -- a sum exceeding $300 billion. When a majority of 7 votes in the House of Representatives enabled the administration to win the $1.5 billion for the production of another 21 MX missiles, the White House proclaimed: "The vote was a vote for peace, for a safer future, and for success at Geneva." In reality, however, it is obvious to everybody that the more nuclear weapons accumulate in the Pentagon arsenals, the higher the mountains of obstacles on the road to reaching agreement on ending the arms race.

The White House is calling on Americans to "lower the flags on their houses" during the prayers for peace, yet all the while the Pentagon men are efficiently issuing orders to military-industrial complex enterprises for the production of components for space weapons, which, as their apologists publicly state, should be the "'biggest stick' in history -- the capacity to unilaterally control space and subsequently establish world domination."

Such is the case every step of the way. We recall how many highfalutin words about the "American dream" [ideya], the "break with the past," and the "worldwide mission" were spoken in October 1983 when the U.S. capital marked the 1,000th day of the current President's stay in office. Yet, only a few days passed before the world knew what was actually behind these declarations: On 25 October the U.S. interventionists landed on Grenada. This, however, did not prevent Secretary of State Shultz from stating "In the postwar period the United States has not once used force to impose its will on weaker countries."

On 25 January 1984 the President's "State of the Union" message claimed: "We are making progress in Lebanon. For almost 10 years the Lebanese have been living from one tragedy to another with no hope in the future. Now the 'Multinational Peacekeeping Forces' and our Marines are helping them to break this chain of despair." Very shortly afterwards, the Lebanese saw for themselves what was behind these words when the battleship New Jersey started shelling their peaceful villages with up to 550 1-ton shells a day.

In his 26 September 1983 speech to the UN General Assembly, the U.S. President proclaimed: "We are trying to ease the reliance on the use of force in Latin America and create a framework for peace talks." Hardly 2 months had passed when the White House signed a directive on 21 November allocating funds to mine Nicaraguan ports.

In an attempt to justify the expansion of aid to the Somocista gangs organized, trained, and financed by the CIA, the head of the administration declared the "contras" his "brothers," stating that they were the "moral equivalent of the founding fathers of the United States." Things reached the point where Washington declared the task of overthrowing by force sovereign Nicaragua's Government elected by the people to be "one of the supreme moral tasks (?!) in U.S. postwar history."

Listening to all this, one cannot help remembering the words of V. Mayakovskiy: "No country talks as much moral, high-flown, idealistic, sanctimonious claptrap as the United States."

REAGAN'S MIAMI SPEECH 'LADEN WITH HATRED'

LD281739 Moscow TASS in English 1158 GMT 28 May 85

["Lies at the Service of the Policy of Tension" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS — TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir writes: THE NEW YORK TIMES has summed up U.S. President Ronald Reagan's statements, in which he has been going out of his way to force his hegemonistic ideology on the Americans and the entire world, as a degradation of political rhetoric. The White House chief's latest speech in Miami, laden with hatred to everything progressive, to the countries and peoples upholding the ideals of freedom and independence and fighting against the arms race and for a lasting peace on earth, fits the description perfectly.

Reagan lashed out with special malice at Nicaragua which, he claimed, is perpetrating aggression in the region and threatening not only the freedom of its neighbour countries but also U.S. security. Such dirty allegations are not just rhetoric. They also serve a definite practical purpose, aiming to provide a propaganda cover for Washington's policy of state terrorism in Central America, first of all that in relations to Nicaragua.

By slandering the Sandinist government of Nicaragua and ascribing to it aggressive intentions, the Reagan administration seeks to furnish a pretext for carrying out its own plans to make short work of the Nicaraguan revolution and restore American imperialist domination in Nicaragua.

The tactic is far from new. It has been used by the United States more than once before. Let us recall, in particular, Grenada. At first Washington made absurd charges against the independent government of that country, accusing it of jeopardizing the security of the countries of the region and the United States itself, and then it hurled its Armed Forces against Grenada in order to turn it into its actual protectorate.

The United States is going to repeat the "Grenadan variant" of armed international banditry also in Nicaragua. Reagan and his team are speaking with impudent arrogance even today of their intention to "remove" the Sandinist government of Nicaragua. U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz admitted frankly the other day that Washington did not rule out the possibility of sending American troops to Central America to fight.

The Washington leadership has been employing ever more vicious anti-Nicaraguan attacks as a means of blackmail against the American legislators whom the White House is seeking to make endorse appropriations to back the "contras". Pressing for a corresponding congressional resolution, Reagan hopes to use it as a legal cover for the direct armed intervention against Nicaragua now in preparation.

Reagan's speech in Miami has confirmed that Washington is not at all going to abandon its policy of state terrorism in Central America, which violates the generally recognized norms of international law and the principles of the U.N. Charter and the Charter of the Organization of American States.

WHITE HOUSE 'AIDED' ISRAEL'S 1982 LEBANON ATTACK

LD281258 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 28 May 85

[From the "Time, Events, and People" program, presented by Nikolay Agayants]

[Text] Passions had barely cooled in Washington over the exposures connected with President Reagan's well-known instruction to the CIA about the possible use of special subdivisions to strike preventive blows against terrorists -- that is how fighters against imperialist oppressions and participants of national liberation movements are known in the United States -- when the bomb of a new political scandal exploded in the American capital. The detonator was an admission by the U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis, which boiled down to the fact that the bandit-like invasion by the Tel Aviv military into the territory of sovereign Lebanon in Japan 1982 was sanctioned by the White House. Here is what is indicative. The U.S. State Department was later forced to confirm this first public admission by a highly placed American diplomat.

Its transpires that 6 months before the Israeli aggression, the then defense minister of Israel, Sharon, informed President Ronald Reagan's personal envoy in the Middle East, Habib -- who, I remind you, was rushing about the Middle East region on his notorious shuttle peace mission -- about the armed action being prepared against a neighboring Arab state. Without beating about the bush, Sharon, with the directness of a loudmouthed soldier, revealed to the visiting high-ranking Washington guest Tel Aviv's plans for the seizure of Beirut and the formation in Lebanon of a puppet government suitable to the Zionists. Thus, back in December 1981, Washington knew about Israel's intention to invade Lebanon. It should be said that the U.S. leaders, including Ronald Reagan himself, repeatedly declared that they allegedly condemned the Israeli aggression, that the United States had allegedly spared no effort to dissuade Tel Aviv from its invasion of Lebanon.

All these lofty words and loud assurances of their peace-lovingness and desire to end the Middle East conflict are nothing less than a smokescreen of lies, under cover of which Washington did not merely bless the dangerous venture of its strategic ally, but aided it in every way. The fact of the matter is that toward the end of 1981, Washington sharply increased its deliveries of arms to Israel. It was then that the Tel Aviv hawks ordered $3 billion worth of additional weapons, including tanks, missiles, artillery guns, and so forth.

It was then that phosphorous cluster bombs, marked "Made in USA" poured into Israel, thousands of which were later dropped by the Tel Aviv fanatics on peaceful Lebanese towns and villages.

Today, now that 3 years have passed since the criminal Israeli aggression against Lebanon, the sinister role of Tel Aviv's American patrons in this act looms ever clearer. The Washington administration used this invasion for its own interests in order to step up the U.S. military presence in the region, in order to set up a bridgehead on the lacerated and long-suffering land of Lebanon. For this purpose, the interventionist Marines Corps was sent to the shores of Lebanon, and also an armada of U.S. Navy warships, numbering up to 30 units, was sent in November 1983 to the southeast Mediterranean. The heavy guns of the battleship New Jersey fired on the residential areas of Beirut, and fighters and bombers unloaded their lethal cargoes on Lebanese territory. The United States, in practice, entered the war against the people of Lebanon on the side of Israel.

Washington exploited the fruits of this military action to an even greater extent than Tel Aviv itself, as the journal FOREIGN POLICY wrote. Such is the truth of the bloody adventure undertaken by the Zionist military and the Pentagon brass hats against Lebanon. Such is the real picture of U.S. complicity in the shameful and criminal aggression.

The admissions of Ambassador Lewis and the U.S. State Department have razed to the ground the pharisaical assertions of Washington administration officials, including the head of the White House, Ronald Reagan himself, and Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, to the effect that Washington supposedly knew nothing about the real intentions of its strategic ally. The waves caused by the scandal that has broken in the U.S. capital are now spreading further and further. Democratic Senator for Missouri Eagleton has requested special Congress hearings on U.S. participation in the Israeli aggression.

PRAVDA CARRIES REAGAN-SENATE MX COMPROMISE

PM281009 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Latest Stunt"]

[Text] Washington, 24 May -- The U.S. Senate has approved by 78 votes to 20 a White House compromise option to halve the number of MX strategic nuclear missiles previously requested. As the President's statement stresses, the "ceiling" is now set at 50 units.

This reduced demand is the latest stunt by the Reagan administration and its supporters in the Senate, who are seeking to dampen the fervor of widespread protests in the country against the unprecedented buildup of America's arsenals. As THE WASHINGTON POST observes in this regard, "the opponents of the MX program consider that these missiles destabilize an already shaky strategic situation in the world."

The accord reached between the White House and the Senate indicates that it is merely a question of a propaganda maneuver. It transpires that the limitations are purely temporary in nature and will be lifted as soon as the Pentagon fulfills a number of conditions and, in particular, presents a new basing option for the MX missiles. The words of an unnamed administration spokesman who frankly said that it is a question of a "pause" in the MX program's implementation rather then a limitation are instructive in this regard.

It only remains to be said that 21 first-strike nuclear missiles are already under production and that funds have been appropriated for a further 21.

22 MAY DEPARTURE OF BALDRIGE DELEGATION REPORTED

PM281433 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Departure from USSR"]

[Text] The U.S. Government delegation headed by Secretary of Commerce M. Baldrige left the Soviet Union 22 May. It had been taking part in the work of the eighth Soviet-U.S. Intergovernmental Commission on Trade.

U.S. BARS 'SEDITIOUS' BOOKS FROM MOSCOW FAIR

LD272258 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1150 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Washington, 27 May [TASS] -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Beglov reports:

The Reagan administration is hindering the dispatch to the forthcoming international book fair in Moscow of publications which contain criticism of White House policy in various periods of the country's history or condemn the United States' militaristic preparations. The scandal that has blown up here around the selection of books for the fair testifies to this.

As has become known, the National Endowment for Democracy, which was created on White House initiative and is well known for its reactionary views, has demanded the withdrawal of a whole range of nominations from the list of prepared literature. The "seditious" list includes a book by the Union of Concerned Scientists entitled "Lies and Star Wars," which exposes the danger of the militarization of space; a monograph by S. Hersh entitled "The Price of Power," which criticizes the United States' path since the time of President Nixon for having brought about an increase in tension in various parts of the world; as well as a publication by J. Schell, "The Fate of the Earth," which calls for an end to the nuclear arms race for the salvation of humanity. These books, among others, were chosen for the Moscow fair by a commission which included prominent publishers and writers led by the famous litterateur K. Vonnegut.

Their initiative irritated the administration. On its orders, Carl Gershman, president of the National Endowment for Democracy, sent a letter composed in the tone of an ultimatum to the Association of American Publishers demanding that they refuse to show these editions in Moscow. As AP reports, K. Vonnegut censured this crude interference in the work of the commission.

MORE ON VOROTNIKOV VISIT TO CANADA, MEETINGS

Meets With Parliamentarians

LD291031 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0611 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] Ottawa, 29 May (TASS) -- The friendly visit to Canada of Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, continues.

V. Vorotnikov had a meeting with Charles Mayer, minister of state for the Canadian Wheat Board. They discussed the issues of further development of the trade-economic relations between the two countries, correcting the trade imbalance, and the possibilities of widening Canada's back purchases from the USSR.

In the conversation with David Crombie, minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, V. Vorotnikov dwelled on the issues of the bilateral Soviet-Canadian cooperation in study and assimilating Arctic and northern regions. He noted that both countries have much in common in the north, both from the point of view of nature and climate and the structure of natural resources.

A meeting with the members of the Senate Foreign Affairs Commission and the House of Commons Standing Foreign Affairs and National Defense Commission has taken place too. V. Vorotnikov stressed the importance of parliamentary links, both at federal and provinicial levels, for widening contacts between our countries and deepening mutual understanding between the peoples of the USSR and Canada, which is so important in our difficult times. He reminded them about the experience of the anti-Hitlerite coalition, which vividly showed the possibility of the efficient and equal cooperation between countries with different sociopolitical systems.

Vitaliy Vorotnikov spoke in detail about the peace-loving foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state directed towards securing solid peace and preventing nuclear war. He drew the attention of Canadian parliamentarians to the appeal of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers "to peoples, parliaments, and governments of all countries" and also told about some major Soviet Union peace initiatives recently.

The USSR readiness to reply to any initiative in the interests of securing peace and international security and the fruitlessness of U.S. ruling circles' calculations to acquire military-strategic superiority over the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community has been stressed.

On 29 May V. Vorotnikov is flying to the Province of Alberta at the invitation of the government of this Canadian province.

Talks With Canadian CP Leader

LD290710 Moscow TASS in English 0628 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] Ottawa May 29 TASS -- On Tuesday Vitaliy Vorotnikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, met with William Kashtan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Canada (CPC).

Vitaliy Vorotnikov told him about the great constructive work being done by the Soviet people, about preparation for the 27th Congress of the CPSU, and about the Soviet Union's struggle for peace.

William Kashtan informed Vitaliy Vorotnikov of the CPC's 26th Congress which was held in April this year and of the Canadian Communists' struggle for the interests of the working people, against the threat of nuclear war.

Vitaliy Vorotnikov and William Kashtan discussed topical international problems and emphasized the great importance of the development of Soviet-Canadian relations in the interests of ensuring peace, for the benefit of the people of the two countries.

Their meeting passed in a friendly atmosphere which is characteristic of relations between the CPSU and the CPC.

KIM IL-SONG NOTES ANNIVERSARY OF USSR VISIT

PM290903 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Kim Il-song Statement"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 23 May -- A reception was held yesterday at the USSR Embassy in the DPRK which was attended by Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK, and members of the DPRK party and state delegation which paid an official friendly visit to the USSR in May 1984.

The successful results of the DPRK delegation's talks with the Soviet leaders during the visit to the USSR generate profound satisfaction in us, Kim Il-song said, addressing the meeting. We are very grateful to the Soviet Union for the large amount of varied aid which it renders to the DPRK, he noted. On these jubilee days, the Korean people, together with the Soviet people, are celebrating the 40th anniversary of victory. The Soviet people's great exploit in defeating German fascism and Japanese militarism deserves the respect of all peoples of the world, the DPRK leader stressed.

Reception in Moscow

PM281539 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "DPRK Embassy Reception"]

[Text] Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the USSR, held a reception on 23 May to mark the first anniversary of the official friendly visit to the Soviet Union by Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK, at the head of a DPRK party-state delegation.

Present at the reception were B.A. Ashimov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations. The reception was addressed by Kwon Hui-kyong and B.A. Ashimov.

KIM IL-SONG RECEIVES USSR EDUCATION MINISTER

PM281529 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 24 May -- Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK, yesterday received V.P. Yelyutin, USSR minister of higher and secondary specialized education, here. The Korean side gave a high assessment of Soviet assistance in training highly skilled specialists for the DPRK national economy. Questions of further developing cooperation between the two countries in the education sphere were discussed.

RUSAKOV MEETS DPRK'S HWANG CHANG-YOP IN MOSCOW

SK270721 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met and talked with Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, on 22 May. Opinions on the development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the CPSU and the WPK were exchanged at the talks, which were held in a warm and comradely atmosphere. Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union, was also present at the meeting.

S. KOREAN STUDENTS PROTEST REGIME, U.S. BACKING

SK270313 Moscow International Service in Korean 1100 GMT 23 May 85

[Station commentator Viktorov]

[Text] The meetings had demonstrations staged by South Korean university students on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the bloody suppression of the Kwangju uprisers have swept all universities throughout South Korea.

According to foreign press reports from Seoul, a most intense struggle was staged at Kwangju's Chonnam University, where students burned an effigy of Chon Tu-hwan. The police dispersed the demonstrators in front of the university gates with tear gas and clubs. As a result, many students were wounded and hundreds were taken into custody. Foreign press reports said that those students were beaten and tortured at the prisons. This was the response of the Chon Tu-hwan dictatorial regime to the South Korean people's just demands for the democratization of society and the release of all political prisoners.

The Chonnam University students also demanded that the Chon Tu-hwan regime sever its military ties with the United States, which was directly responsible for the Kwangju incident.

In an interview with the Japanese daily ASAHI SHIMBUN, former U.S. Ambassador to Seoul William Gleysteen virtually admitted that the suppression of the Kwangju uprising in May 1980 was perpetrated with Washington's approval. He revealed that he personally approved the dispatch of the South Korean Army's 20th Infantry Division under the control of the South Korea-U.S. Combined Forces Command. That infantry division perpetrated bloody battles in Kwangju.

The current antigovernment struggle throughout South Korea includes people of all strata. In Seoul, labor and religious organizations and university students recently announced that letters had been sent to President Reagan condemning the United States for supporting the South Korean dictatorial regime. The letters stated that U.S. support for the dictatorial regime constitutes an obstacle to the South Korean people's struggle for the establishment of a democratic government.

The South Korean authorities are trying to brutally suppress such protests with bayonets, but they will not be able to. Strong demonstrations still continue throughout the country.

USSR, MONGOLIA SIGN COOPERATION PROTOCOL

PM281850 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Strengthening Cooperation"]

[Text] A routine session of the Soviet-Mongolian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation was held in Moscow 20-24 May. It examined progress in coordinating Soviet and Mongolian state plans for the next 5 years and elaborating a long-term program for developing economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries through the year 2000. The sides also discussed progress in fulfilling the decisions of the committee's previous session. A protocol was signed on the results of the session, which was held in an atmosphere of businesslike cooperation, fraternal friendship, and complete mutual understanding. The Soviet delegation was headed by Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Mongolian delegation by T. Ragchaa, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers.

JAPANESE MILITARY BUILDUP AIMED AGAINST USSR

LD262042 Moscow World Service in English 1431 GMT 26 May 85

[From the "Focus on Asia" program; news analyst Dmitriy Ruslanov commentary]

[Excerpts] When making an inspection trip to the northern part of Japan, the chief of the National Defense Agency, Kato, told newsmen in Aomori that the agency plans to draw up by this summer a new program of building up the armed forces in the period from 1986 until 1990. Here is what Radio Moscow news analyst Dmitriy Ruslanov writes:

Some concrete provisions of that new document have become known. It is planned to buy 65 F-15 fighter planes, 55 antisubmarine P-3C planes, 12 destroyers, 5 submarines, and the Patriot missile complexes. According to even preliminary estimates, such a program will cost the Japanese taxpayers more than Y20 trillion. Actually, there is nothing sensational about this new present to the Japanese military. Appropriations for arms in Japan keep growing from year to year. Political observers view the program of the National Defense Agency as a qualitatively new stage in building up the self-defense potential and in preparing its forces for joint military operations with the United States in the Pacific. The newspaper YOMIURI says directly that the program is aimed against the Soviet Union. This rapid growth of military spending and military buildup is in line with the official foreign policy conducted by Tokyo. With every year it becomes linked ever closer with the aggressive global strategy of Washington. Tokyo supports the deployment of Tomahawks, it offers its territory to station the F-16 fighter bombers and backs Reagan's "star wars" program.

The Pentagon and the American Administration, on their part, continue to constantly pressure Tokyo to make it further build up its military potential. Incidentally, while applauding every new step made by the Japanese Government in that direction, Washington doesn't miss a chance to say that allegedly it isn't making a sufficient enough effort to turn the country into one big military base. And so, shortly after that, the National Defense Agency brings up its plans to correspond with the United States' demands and the Liberal Democratic Party pushes them through parliament. And there doesn't seem to be an end to it, though it's quite clear what that could mean for the country.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S ENVOY OPENS KABUL TALKS

LD281454 Moscow TASS in English 1438 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Kabul May 28 TASS -- The UN secretary-general's personal envoy Diego Cordovez arrived in Kabul today for consultations with the Afghan side on issues concerning a political settlement on the situation around Afghanistan. Later today he began consultations with Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost.

ANNIVERSARY OF USSR-AFGHANISTAN TIES MARKED

PM290913 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Baylov dispatch: "Along the Road of Friendship and Good-Neighborliness"]

[Text] Kabul, May -- May 27 is the 66th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Afghanistan. Their whole history, from the moment of their conception to the present, has been characterized by the sincere desire of the two countries' peoples for friendship and cooperation. Lenin's ideas of peace and national liberation proclaimed in the first decrees of Soviet power became the foundation of the two states' equitable, good-neighborly relations.

In distant 1919, the liberation movement was growing rapidly in Afghanistan, which was semicolonially dependent on Britain, under the influence of the October Revolution. Emir Amanollah Khan came to power in Kabul in February. He proclaimed the restoration of his motherland's independence. The young Land of the Soviets, the world's first, officially announced its recognition of independent Afghanistan.

The British Government's reaction was different. It began preparing an armed invasion of the country. In the face of a serious threat, Amanollah Khan sent a message requesting assistance to Moscow, to V.I. Lenin. It spoke of the urgent need to establish diplomatic relations with Soviet Russia. Afghanistan was immediately given the necessary political support. V.I. Lenin sent a reply to Kabul on 27 May, during the Afghan people's fierce battles against the well-equipped British Army that had invaded the country. It declared the Soviet Government's firm support for the Afghan people's liberation struggle and its readiness to establish diplomatic relations between the two states. In this way, the message stated, "broad opportunities will be opened up for mutual assistance against any encroachment by foreign plunderers on another's freedom and property."

The firm stand taken by the Soviet Government was one of the most important political factors assisting the Afghan people in defending their independence and winning the war against Britain. The entire subsequent history of Soviet-Afghan relations is full of examples of such international assistance. The first Soviet-Afghan friendship treaty was signed in Moscow in 1921. Implementing it, our country gave Afghanistan great assistance in developing the national economy back in the thirties.

The USSR's invariably principled stand with regard to Afghanistan helped its people in many ways to counter the pressure of imperialism and was an important factor in defending and strengthening Afghanistan's independence.

This end is served by the new Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Assistance, and Cooperation between the USSR and the DRA of 5 December 1978, concluded after the April Revolution. It clearly expresses the sincere desire of the two states to strengthen and broaden friendship and to develop mutual cooperation. When the real threat of the loss of Afghanistan's national independence arose as a result of the undeclared war unleashed against the DRA by the forces of imperialism and reaction, our country once again, as in 1919, extended the hand of international assistance to its southern neighbor. In response to repeated requests from the DRA Government, the Soviet Union introduced a limited contingent of its troops into Afghanistan to help the people of that friendly country to repulse external aggression. At the same time, the Soviet Union gives the young republic tremendous political and economic support. Suffice it to say that enterprises constructed within the framework of Soviet-Afghan cooperation produce 70 percent of the output in the republic's state sector.

The people of Afghanistan and their government can always count on the solidarity and assistance of the Soviet people in defending the April Revolution and implementing its aims and ideals.

In one of his recent statements, Babrak Karmal, chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council and general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, highly evaluated the significance of our friendship and fraternal assistance. He declared that the Soviet Union sincerely seeks to ensure that Afghanistan is always independent, free, and prosperous, the Afghan people are happy, and the border between our countries is always one of friendship and fraternity that does not separate our peoples but draws them closer.

DELHI: DETAILS OF USSR-INDIA OIL, GAS AGREEMENTS

BK241424 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 24 May 85

[Text] The Soviet Union is to give technical and financial assistance to India for an intensive oil and gas exploration under the agreement signed during the current visit of the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, to the USSR. It will extend a credit of 350 million rubles for the exploration in the Cambay and Cauvery basins. The project is to be completed in 5 years. According to an official press release, the Soviet Union will carry out explorations, including seismic surveys, processing and interpreting data, drill exploratory wells, and provide technical personnel and equipment. There will be no oil sharing under the scheme. The credit is part of 1 billion rubles from the Soviet Union to India for which the agreement has been signed. In the Cambay basin, the proposed exploration will be in the northern part. In the Cauvery basin, there are indications of oil and gas, but detailed exploration may uncover substantial hydrocarbon resources.

ARKHIPOV COMMENTS ON SOVIET-INDIAN COMMISSION

PM240831 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English 19 May 85 p 4

[Igor Borisov report: "Important Decisions Made"]

[Text] Moscow recently played host to the 9th session of the Standing Inter-Governmental Soviet-Indian Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

Jawaharlal Nehru once said, referring to the Bhilai steel project, that it was a symbolic precursor of India in the future. That was thirty years ago when Soviet and Indian leaders signed an agreement to build what is now an industrial giant, which ushered in a broad-based and comprehensive Soviet-Indian cooperation. India is now among the top ten industrialized countries. In 30 years, 58 industrial and other projects have been built on Indian soil with Soviet assistance, and some 30 more are in the pipeline, or under construction. The scale of economic links between the two countries necessitated the setting up in 1972 of the Standing Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation. The commission includes groups dealing with ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, coal and oil industries, power engineering, mechanical engineering, planning, trade and scientific and technological cooperation. The commission does much to take care of the projects in hand and those yet to be undertaken and constantly explores new avenues and forms of Soviet-Indian cooperation. This work is based on the Long-Term Programme for Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technical Cooperation over ten to 15 years, which was signed in 1979. Agreement has been reached to produce another long-term programme to cover the period after 1990.

What was discussed at the commission's 9th session? Here is what the heads of the Soviet and Indian delegations have to say:

Ivan Arkhipov, first vice-chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers: "We have made important decisions related to reaching the rated production capacities by Bhilai and Bokaro steel plants which can each produce four million tons of steel a year. Cooperation arrangements have been made to modernize yet another steel works, the one at Burnpur, and to expand work in the field of oil and coal industries, power engineering and computer technology. The Soviet delegation was guided by the invariable principles which form the foundation of friendship and cooperation with India, the desire to continue to deepen and broaden our links with it in the name of future prosperity of the national economies of the USSR and India. The Indian side has reciprocated this desire."

Shankarrao Bhaurao Chavan, minister of home affairs of India: "Each session of the commission and each protocol we have signed mark new steps in the development of the Indo-Soviet cooperation. We have stated with satisfaction that the plans we made earlier are being successfully implemented. And that means that India has scored fresh successes on the way to progress and that the Soviet economy has received from India the deliveries it needs. We have set definite goals to be reached in the immediate future and that attests to the viability of the long-term programme of cooperation between our countries, providing guidance in our activities.

"The successful completion of the session was also important because it came shortly before the visit to the Soviet Union by Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi."

PRAVDA: SOVIET-INDIAN TIES 'FACTOR OF PEACE'

PM281247 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Factor of Peace and Stability"]

[Text] Solidarity with the peoples who have rid themselves of colonial oppression and are defending their independence and support for their struggle for national resurrection and social renewal have been and remain fundamental principles of Soviet foreign policy.

Our country firmly and consistently advocates the expansion of ties with the liberated states of Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the enhancement of their role in international affairs, believing that this exerts beneficial influence on the world situation.

Multifaceted Soviet-Indian relations can serve as a graphic example of the USSR's peace-loving Leninist foreign policy. The years and decades pass, generations of people succeed each other in our countries, but the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India are constantly developing. This is happening because they are built on the basis of equality and mutual respect, and on the coincidence or proximity of the two countries' positions on fundamental problems of the present day.

Our cooperation, which now has so many yardsticks, is free from any pressure, from the imposition of any conditions. The Soviet Union has consistently supported India at all stages of its struggle for the consolidation of independence: It has displayed and continues to display effective solidarity with that great country, which is defending its sovereignty, dignity, and right to an independent path of development. This was reaffirmed during the official friendly visit to the Soviet Union by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the summit talks he had in Moscow.

The leadership of the two countries is unanimous that the Treaty on Peace, Friendship, and Cooperation between the USSR and India accords with mutual interests and fully reflects our peoples' loyalty to peace and the relaxation of tension.

Rating highly Soviet-Indian economic, trade, and scientific-technical cooperation, the sides noted that it is dynamically developing on a planned basis and is constantly being enriched with new forms and content. With our country's economic and technical assistance, over 70 industrial enterprises have been constructed in India in key economic sectors such as ferrous metallurgy, coal, and petroleum extraction. The agreement on the main directions of economic, trade, and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and India for the period through 2000 and the agreement on Soviet-Indian cooperation in the installation of a number of new large-scale projects in India signed during the visit will undoubtedly promote the further intensification of the economic ties between the two countries.

The talks paid great attention to topical international problems. It was reaffirmed that the friendship and cooperation between our countries play an increasingly important and beneficial role in the entire system of international relations. Through the strength of their example, they help to assert the principles of peaceful coexistence and work in favor of the consolidation of peace and the peoples' security. The Soviet Union and India consider the most urgent tasks to be the immediate cessation of the arms race, above all the nuclear arms race, the prevention of its dissemination to space, and the persistent pursuit of a policy aimed at the total destruction and prohibition of nuclear weapons in order to eliminate the threat of nuclear war forever. In this connection, emphasis was placed on the great importance of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on the package of questions of space and nuclear armaments that must be examined and resolved in an interconnected way.

In the present situation, special importance attaches to safeguarding peace and security in Asia. In recent years, a number of constructive initiatives have been put forward on some aspects of the security of that continent and its individual regions. The authors of these initiatives include the socialist states and the members of the Nonaligned Movement. Among these are the USSR and India. The proposals put forward remain on the agenda of international life.

For instance, the proposal to turn the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace was supported by the UN General Assembly and the Nonaligned Movement. Nor should we underestimate the fact that both nuclear powers situated in Asia, the USSR and the PRC, have undertaken not to make first use of nuclear weapons.

"Right now," M.S. Gorbachev said at the dinner in honor of the Indian guest, "the question arises: Considering all these initiatives and to some extent Europe's experience, should we not think about a general, comprehensive approach toward the problem of security in Asia and the possible pooling of the Asian states' efforts in this direction? Of course, the path toward this is complex. Yet the road to Helsinki was not smooth and even, either. Here various methods are obviously possible -- both bilateral talks and multilateral consultations -- right up to holding, in the long term, some kind of pan-Asian forum for the exchange of opinions and the joint quest for constructive solutions."

Understandably, a very important role in the improvement of the political situation in Asia belongs to India, which enjoys prestige and respect both in Asian countries and throughout the world, all the more so since it now heads the Nonaligned Movement, which numbers about 100 states in its ranks and is playing a mounting role in international affairs.

Those taking part in the Moscow talks confirmed the need for joint efforts in the struggle for peace and security, the elimination of hotbeds of tension in various parts of the world, and the establishment of a new, just economic order in international relations. They are convinced that unresolved problems can and must be settled by peaceful means, through negotiations. That applies to southwest and Southeast Asia and to the Near East, Central America, southern Africa, and the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Indian Prime Minister R. Gandhi's visit to the Soviet Union and the result of his talks with the Soviet leadership were an event of great international importance. The Soviet Union will continue to promote the further development of traditional relations between the two countries in the interests of the consolidation of peace and international security in Asia and throughout the world.

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES INDIAN ENGINEER DELEGATION

PM280929 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received members of the Indian delegation headed by G. Singh, president of the Association of the Indian Engineering Industry, on 24 May. Questions of further developing mutually advantageous cooperation between Soviet and Indian organizations were discussed.

THAI 'PROVOCATIONS' CREATE TENSIONS IN AREA

PM290845 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 85 First Edition p 5

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov "Commentator's Column": "Provoking Tension"]

[Text] The Foreign Ministries of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos have issued protests against new military provocations by Thailand in the border regions. The SRV Foreign Ministry statement says that the Thai authorities, seeking to justify their hostile actions against the PRK and mislead the world public, are slanderously alleging that "Vietnamese troops are encroaching on Thai territory." Whereas, in fact, Vietnamese volunteers in Cambodia have never threatened Thai security.

On the contrary, it is Thailand which is seeking to maintain tension, assisting Pol Pot and other reactionaries in their attempts to hold up the revolutionary transformations on Cambodian soil. It is Bangkok which rejects constructive initiatives, in particular, the proposal to create a security zone under international control on both sides of the Cambodian-Thai border. Thai planes daily encroach on Cambodian airspace and Thai troops continually violate the border with Cambodia and Laos.

More than 6 years have now passed since the Cambodian people overthrew the Pol Pot butcher regime. However, the bloody tyrant's stooges who were ejected from the country and their foreign protectors have turned the Cambodian-Thai border into the same kind of zone of "undeclared war" as the border between Nicaragua and Honduras has become in recent years. The remnants of the surviving reactionary gangs have established themselves on Thai territory, not far from the border, from where they carry out raids of plunder and conduct their subversive attack on the PRK. Those responsible for transforming the Thai-Cambodian border into a line of confrontation are pursuing several goals at the same time. First, to reverse by force the inexorable process of national rebirth in Cambodia and return the regime ousted by the people to power, albeit in a new guise. Second, to continually provoke border clashes and provoke distrust and enmity toward Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam in their ASEAN neighbors -- Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Brunei.

In the hope of retrieving their lost positions in Southeast Asia, U.S. imperialist circles are deliberately fueling a center of tension in the region. They are exploiting the so-called "Cambodian problem" to alienate and set off the two neighboring groups of states against each other for their own self-interested ends. By intimidating the ASEAN members with an imaginary "Vietnamese threat" and urging them into confrontation with the countries of Indochina, Washington would like to embroil the association in the global system of imperialist blocs.

CPSU DELEGATION STUDIES HEALTH CARE IN SRV

PM281037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by K. Kazybayev, secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, was in the SRV 14 through 23 May in accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. It familiarized itself with the experience of party leadership in the sphere of the organization of medical science and health care. The delegation was received by Le Quang Dao, secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV STOPS OVER IN KHABAROVSK

PM281331 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On Official Visits"]

[Text] Sofia, 26 May -- T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, has departed on official friendly visits to the DPRK and Mongolia.

On the way he made a stopover in Japan to participate in the opening of a Bulgarian day at the Expo-85 world exhibition in the city of Tsukuba.

On his way to Japan, Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, made a stopover in Khabarovsk 25-26 May.

He was met and seen off at the airport by A.K. Chernyy, first secretary of Khabarovsk CPSU Kraykom, and other officials.

Cables Gorbachev From Plane

LD251822 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the Bulgarian People's Republic, sent a telegram to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, while flying over the USSR. It says:

While flying over the territory of the great Soviet country, I send you and the fraternal Soviet people the most sincere wishes of happiness and new great successes in your peaceful and creative work in the cause of implementing into life the creative Leninist policy of the CPSU, directed toward perfecting the developed socialist society in the Soviet country, toward strengthening unity and cohesion of the countries of the socialist community, and at preserving peace in the world in the name of further creative development and implementation of the joint course of the BCP and CPSU toward all-around cooperation and rapprochement between our fraternal countries and peoples.

DEMICHEV WELCOMES ROMANIAN CULTURAL DELEGATION

PM290933 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "To Take Part in a Session"]

[Text] A Romanian delegation headed by Suzana Gadea, candidate member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee and chairman of the Romanian Council for Socialist Culture and Educaton, arrived in Moscow from Bucharest 26 May to take part in the work of the third session of the Soviet-Romanian joint commission on cultural cooperation.

At the airport the delegation was met by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, and other officials and by T. Dudas, Romanian ambassador to the USSR.

ROMANIA RATIFIES WARSAW PACT EXTENSION PROTOCOL

PM281509 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Protocol Ratified"]

[Text] Bucharest, 23 May -- At a session here, the Romanian Council of State has ratified the protocol on extending the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance signed in Warsaw on 14 May 1955. The speakers at the session stressed Romanian's resolve, together with the other socialist countries, to struggle for peace and disarmament and the continuation of the policy of detente, trust, and security in the international arena.

DEMICHEV VISIT TO GDR FOR CULTURE DAYS DETAILED

PM251342 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 18 May 85 p 7

[Report by SOVETSKAYA KULTURA special correspondent G. Terekhova: "Meetings Between Friends"]

[Excerpt] Berlin -- A USSR culture festival is taking place in the GDR in an atmosphere of cordiality and friendship. The Soviet delegation headed by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, is continuing to acquaint itself with the republic and its achievements in the sphere of culture and art. The delegation has visited Frankfurt/Oder and Schwerin Bezirke. In Frankfurt/Oder Bezirk, the Soviet delegation visited the liberation memorial on the Seelow Heights and laid a wreath at the monument to the liberation troops. In Berlin the delegation headed by P.N. Demichev visited the center for Soviet science and culture where it looked at a photographic exhibition titled "For Life on Earth," which is an account of the Soviet people's exploits in the Great Patriotic War.

In Berlin's "Apollo" Hall, the Soviet deletation head met with cultural figures from the republic's capital. There were actors, artists, playwrights, musicians, and moviemakers at the meeting. In his speech, P.N. Demichev noted the increase role of the creative intelligentsia in the struggle for peace, in the solution of the topical socioeconomic tasks facing socialist society, and in the education of the new man. Culture, he said, is now becoming an all-embracing sphere. It has a great influence on people's consciousness and their way of life. The question is what kind of influence literature and art are exercising on the masses' consciousness and what kind of person modern culture is molding.

The mass nature of cultural influence compels us to pay special attention to questions of ideological and artistic standards and the direction of art's influence on social mentality. Effective measures must be adopted to ensure that socialist art remains forever the leading, dominant spiritual force in the masses' consciousness.

Addresses Ceremony

AU161141 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 14 May 85 p 3

[Speech by Petr Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and minister of culture, at the opening ceremony of the "USSR Culture Days in the GDR" headlined "Reason, Will, and Deeds for the Defense of Life" in East Berlin on 13 May]

[Text] Much esteemed Comrade Kurt Hager! Dear German friends! Comrades! Permit me to begin by expressing thanks for the heartfelt words spoken here about the CPSU, the Soviet state, and our people.

I also want to express to you and, through you to the entire GDR people, the fraternal feelings and wishes of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the Council of Ministers, and all Soviet people for new successes in building socialism.

A few days ago, the Soviet peoples and those of the GDR and the other fraternal countries marked the 40th anniversary of the great victory over fascism. A fervent appeal was launched in Moscow, Berlin, and the other capitals of the socialist countries for the strengthening of peace and trust among peoples.

Basic changes have taken place in the world in the 40 years since the war.

The peoples of the socialist countries have traveled a long way and have registered historic successes in building the new system, in resolving the economic and social tasks, and in developing culture.

In all socialist countries, the festivities marking victory day are a convincing illustration of the working people's support for the policy and creative activity carried out by the communist and workers parties and an illustration of the peoples' desire to defend peace and erect an insurmountable barrier against the danger of war.

During our last visit to your country, we witnessed the great faithful adherence of the GDR people to socialism, peace, and social progress.

For their mental vigor in building the new system, the GDR people and the SED draw on the unvanquishable teachings of Marxism-Leninism. A highly developed economy, a democratic state, and progressive culture -- these are the noteworthy results of peaceful work at which the true friends and comrades-in-arms rejoice today, together with the GDR people.

Comradely Cooperation Ensures Success

The intense feeling of solidarity and true comradeship, the unity of noble goals, and the lofty principles of socialist internationalism are the forceful mental powers that lend unshakable steadfastness to those who fight for peace and social progress. We are sure the the 11th SED Congress for which you are preparing will become a convincing inventory of socialist achievements and an illustration of adherence to communist ideals.

The Soviet Communists, men of culture and art, and the entire Soviet people are unflinchingly pursuing one of the most important imperatives of our party and state: the many-sided strengthening of fraternal friendship with our closest allies and comrades-in-arms, the countries of the large socialist community.

The socialist community is the image of new relations among peoples, relations that have never before existed in history, based on the principles of socialist internationalism, full equality of rights, fraternal assistance, and mutual cooperation in achieving common goals. This was once again proved by the results of the summit meeting held by party and state representatives of the Warsaw Pact member-countries, a meeting at which it was decided to extend the validity of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance.

The socialist community, which indeed embodies the efforts made by the international workers class for fraternal cooperation, has become a reliable buttress of peoples who have embarked upon the road of social progress and peace.

Attempts by hostile forces to divert the peoples of the socialist countries from the Marxist-Leninist road that has stood the test of history are in vain.

These peoples had to pay too high a price for the reactionary and untruthful ideas of anticommunism, racism, and chauvinism which to this day breed revanchism and insane plans to revise the results of World War II. As the general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, Comrade Erich Honecker, stressed, the main lesson of World War II is "to ensure peace and constantly strengthen socialism." (NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 9 May 1985)

The victory over fascism has paved the way to democracy and socialism for many peoples. It has created preconditions for the collapse of the colonial system of imperialism and has given an intensive impetus to the masses' struggle for lasting peace and international security.

The Struggle Waged by German Communists Is Unforgettable

The glory of the heroes who, without sparing their lives, fought for mankind's freedom and to rescue mankind from fascist tyranny will never fade from the memory of future generations.

The German communists, patriots, and internationalists also contributed to the struggle against fascism. As you know, a noteworthy event in their honor took place on 5 May in Krasnogorsk near Moscow: the Memorial Museum of the German Antifascists was opened.

The sacred cause of the heroes who sacrificed their lives in that struggle, has become, one can say, a common cause of all progressive mankind. To continue this cause today means to devote all one's forces, reason, and will to preserving peace and life on earth.

The Soviet Union and the socialist fraternal countries have proposed a whole complex of constructive initiatives to halt the arms race and reduce international tension. However, these initiatives are persistently opposed by reactionary circles in the West, particularly by the United States, which dreams about achieving military supremacy and creating preconditions for a nuclear strike against the socialist countries.

Just as the struggle against fascism united the forces of the countries of the anti-Hitlerite coalition, the armies of partisans and the units of peace-loving peoples, the resistance movements in subjugated countries, the communists and all antifascists, so mutual understanding and cooperation among all honest people on this earth now can and must turn into an insurmountable barrier to concretization of the criminal plans of nuclear insanity. Today, when the terrible danger of nuclear destruction is hovering over the world, millions of people on our planet are waging a heroic struggle against the forces of imperialist reaction, aggression, and militarism.

Lenin's Teachings as a Source of Energy and a Guideline

Dear Comrades! The Soviet people are currently preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress, which will hold a special place in the life of the party and country. This party congress will set out the future tasks of socioeconomic, political, and cultural development of Soviet society and will decide on a new Party Program. The CPSU Central Committee April 1985 Plenum established the main points for resolving strategic and current socioeconomic tasks, problems in political-ideological and educational activity, and in the struggle for a peaceful future of mankind.

Soviet Communists and our entire people measure their actions and plans against the ideas of the great Lenin. "The entire life and the entire development of history convincingly confirm the great truth of Lenin's teachings," said Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, in his speech to the April plenum. "They were, are, and remain for us guidelines for action, a source of energy, and directives in establishing the strategy and tactics of development."

In complete unity and closely rallied around the Leninist Communist Party and its Central Committee, the Soviet people are preparing for the 27th CPSU Congress. Active and creative work is being carried out in all areas of communist construction.

Together with the entire Soviet people, the men of art and culture in our country also want to honor the party congress with new achievements.

The artistic intelligentsia feels closely linked with the great plans of the CPSU. It sees its mission primarily in educating people to be mentally and morally prepared to resolve the increasingly complicated and responsible tasks today faced by builders of the socialist society.

Today, when the dark clouds of nuclear danger are hanging over the world, awareness of the great cultural mission of socialist men of culture is increasing, since they are called upon to make the torch of humanism, peace, and friendship among peoples shine constantly brighter.

A Mirror of the Soviet People's Feelings and Thoughts

Cultural cooperation among the socialist fraternal countries contributes to perfecting socialist society, to fashioning a new man, and to developing the progressive traditions of national cultures, it ensures a broad framework for acquiring the cultural riches of peoples, and gives an impetus to their getting closer, to mutual understanding, and to strengthening peace and international security.

In October 1984, GDR Culture Days took place in our country devoted to the 35th anniversary of the foundation of the GDR. They have been the greatest event to date in the history of the development of our cultural ties. The achievements of the GDR socialist culture displayed during those days were of great interest to the Soviet people.

The best artists of our country are participating in the USSR Culture Days opening today. The multifaceted programs of these days reflect the sentiments and thoughts of the Soviet people and their struggle for the development and improvement of socialist society.

We view the USSR Culture Days in the GDR as a fraternal message from the Soviet people to our friend and brother, and to our comrade-in-arms in our common cause, the GDR people. We also view them as proof of the unity of our goals and Marxist-Leninist ideals.

In the future, too, we will direct all our efforts toward strengthening fraternal friendship between our peoples, expanding cultural cooperation between our countries, and strengthening the international influence of socialist culture, the most progressive culture today, and we will direct them toward mobilizing culture for the struggle for peace and social progress.

Long live the indestructible friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the GDR!

Long live peace and socialism!

ITALIAN PRIME MINISTER CRAXI BEGINS VISIT

PRAVDA Cited on Visit

LD272226 Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- Bettino Craxi, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic, arrives in the Soviet Union today at the invitation of the Soviet leadership. Today's PRAVDA carries a brief biography and a photograph of the high guest. "Soviet people," the newspaper writes, "welcome the arrival of the chairman of Italy's Council of Ministers to our country and hope that talks with him in Moscow will promote the growth of trust in relations between the Soviet Union and Italy, their development in various fields, and the cause of improving the international situation".

Stops Over in Warsaw

LD281615 Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Warsaw May 28 TASS -- Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic, had talks here today with Bettino Craxi, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic, who made a stop here en route to Moscow. On the same day Bettino Craxi left Warsaw for Moscow. At the Warsaw airport he was seen off by Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Met by Tikhonov, Gromyko

LD282252 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1640 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Moscow, 28 May (TASS) -- B. Craxi, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Italy, arrived in Moscow today for a visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

The guest was met at the steps of the plane at Sheremetyevo Airport by N.A. Tikhonov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR minister of foreign affairs.

Taking part in the welcome were Deputy Chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers A.K. Antonov and G.I. Marchuk; USSR Ministers B.P. Bugayev and S.P. Burenkov; TASS General Director S.A. Losev, V.F. Promyslov, chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom; A.G. Kovalev, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; N.M. Lunkov, USSR ambassador to Italy; chiefs of departments in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs A.L. Adamishin and D.S. Nikiforov; and other officials.

Among those meeting B. Craxi was G. Migliuolo, Italian ambassador to the USSR.

The state flags of Italy and the USSR were raised at the airport.

G. Andreotti, minister of foreign affairs of Italy, who is accompanying B. Craxi on his trip to the Soviet Union, has also arrived in Moscow.

Today the representative of the Italian Council of Ministers laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin Wall.

Talks Begin

LD290700 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0651 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] Moscow, 29 May TASS -- The Soviet-Italian talks began in the Kremlin today. Taking part in them are Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Bettino Craxi, prime minister of Italy; and other Soviet and Italian state figures.

Bettino Craxi arrived in Moscow yesterday on a visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

Meets With Brandt

AU290858 Rome ANSA in English 0830 GMT 29 May 85

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, May 29 -- Italian Premier Bettino Craxi, in Moscow on a two-day official visit, met last night with president of the Socialist International and head of the West German Social Democrat Party, Willy Brandt.

The cordial chat took place at Craxi's residence in Moscow and was said to focus on East-West ties and arms reduction.

Brandt has been in the Soviet Union since Sunday at the invitation of the Soviet Communist Party. He has invited a member of the party's political office, Boris Ponomarev, to come to Bonn in September to discuss the possibility of (?diverting) funds earmarked for the arms race to the Third World.

'DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT' OF ITALIAN TIES DISCUSSED

PM290921 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 May 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent N. Paklin dispatch: "USSR-Italy: Mutual Understanding Growing Stronger"]

[Text] Rome -- In Italian political and public circles, paramount importance is being attached to the forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union by Italian Prime Minister B. Craxi. The influential newspaper LA REPUBBLICA stresses that B. Craxi's visit will continue a series of meetings between Italian and Soviet leaders, including the talk this March in Moscow between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Italian President A. Pertini and Foreign Minister G. Andreotti; the official visit to Rome at the end of February by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister; and the recent meeting in Vienna between A.A. Gromyko and G. Andreotti. For its part, the Rome newspaper IL TEMPO notes that B. Craxi's trip is being made at a time of a "considerable improvement in Italian-Soviet relations."

Ties between the Soviet Union and Italy have recently been marked by dynamic development. It is not just a question of the traditional spheres for Soviet-Italian relations such as economics and culture. The political dialogue reflecting the two countries' desire to maintain good stable relations with each other is developing.

However, as the practice of Soviet-Italian relations shows, the political dialogue is not restricted to the framework of bilateral ties, however important they may be. It has as its core the key problems of international relations, and primarily the questions of war and peace. The Italian Government positively assessed the accord reached on the subject matter and goals of the Geneva talks between the Soviet Union and the United States on the questions of nuclear and space arms. At the same time, it stated the need to prevent an arms race in space. This was also made extremely clear in the Soviet-Italian statement on the results of A.A. Gromyko's talks in Italy. This principled position was reaffirmed by G. Andreotti in Vienna in mid-May. The Italian Government advocates strict observance of such an important Soviet-U.S. agreement as the ABM Treaty signed in 1972. People in Italy are noting that the U.S. intention to implement a program to militarize space clearly contravenes this fundamental document.

In Italy eminent politicians belonging to the five-party coalition camp, the leaders of a number of political parties, including the Italian Communist Party, and representatives of the public and scientists are speaking out against these extremely dangerous plans. Italian newspapers feature numerous statements by foreign figures against Washington's course of preparing for "star wars." There has been a widespread response here to the statement by the famous Italian physicist Bruno Rossi, one of the "fathers" of the atom bomb, now living in the United States. "I do not believe in Reagan's space shield. Moreover, I believe it is dangerous for the strategic balance of power," he said in an interview with Turin's LA STAMPA newspaper.

The pressure from Washington, which has set its sights on involving its Western European NATO allies in the creation of the "space shield" at all costs, is causing indignation in Italy. The Italian Government has by no means rushed to respond to the U.S. ultimatum on joining the West Europeans in the "star wars" project. Of course, there are also influential forces in Italy that unreservedly support every U.S. initiative, including the program for a so-called large-scale "ABM defense." Politically and economically, these forces are closely linked with Washington. However, it seems that they are not the ones setting the tone today in the Appennine Peninsula.

The Italian Government has repeatedly stressed that it intends to make its contribution to the search for ways leading to an easing of international tension, a reduction of the opposing sides' nuclear arsenals, and a political settlement of the conflicts on various continents that poison the international situation. People in Italy are starting to realize more clearly how dangerous continuing the nuclear arms race, and particularly the siting of U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles on a number of West European countries, including Italy, is for the cause of peace.

Italy greeted with great interest the Soviet Union's decision to unilaterally introduce a moratorium until this November on the deployment of its medium-range missiles and to halt the implementation of other retaliatory measures in Europe. Objecting to those in the West who rushed to term Moscow's new peace-loving step "propagandist," B. Craxi said: "On the contrary, I think that it testifies to a desire for dialogue. This proposal deserves a counterproposal."

One cannot fail to note also the positive shifts in interparliamentary ties between the two countries. A prestigious delegation from the lower house Defense Committee headed by its chairman, the famous Italian politician A. Ruffino, has just visited the Soviet Union. This was the first visit to the Soviet Union by such a delegation from a NATO country. During the meeting with members of the USSR Supreme Soviet Foreign Affairs Commissions, the sides reaffirmed their adherence to the policy of strengthening trust and cooperation, removing the threat of war, and strengthening peace on the basis of maintaining military-strategic parity at the lowest possible level.

On the whole, the impression was formed that Italy is striving to make its own independent contribution to the East-West dialogue. Italian Government representatives recently held talk in Budapest and Warsaw and quite recently received a high-level GDR delegation in Rome. Through its foreign minister, Italy has repeatedly stressed the importance of the Helsinki accords enshrined in the Final Act of the all-European conference and of the Stockholm conference.

Meetings and talks between Soviet and Italian leaders have always been held in a business-like, constructive spirit and have promoted the development of bilateral relations. On the eve of B. Craxi's visit to the Soviet Union people here are expressing confidence that this will also be the case this time.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON WILLY BRANDT'S VISIT

Meets Ponomarev, Zagladin

LD281457 Moscow TASS in English 1448 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- Boris Ponomarev, an alternate member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Vadim Zagladin, a member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy head of the International Affairs Department of the CPSU Central Committee, today had a conversation with Willy Brandt, chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany and chairman of the Socialist International, Egon Bahr and Hans Koschnick, members of the Presidium of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, Bjoern Engholm, a member of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, and Dietrich Stobbe, a member of the Social Democratic faction in the West German Bundestag.

The sides discussed problems of the mutual interest, including those relevant to struggle against the arms race and the war danger, and also the use of the means saved as a result of cuts in military budgets to meet the needs of the developing countries.

Comparison of Gorbachev Speech

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 29 May carries in its First Edition on page 2 a TASS report on the speech given by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at a luncheon in honor of Willy Brandt in the Kremlin on 27 May. The PRAVDA report, which appears under the general heading "In a Friendly Atmosphere" and is subheaded "M.S. Gorbachev's Speech," has been compared with the Moscow Domestic Service version published in the 28 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT beginning on page G 3, revealing the following variations:

page G 3, PRAVDA begins: [Text] Esteemed Chairman Willy Brandt! Esteemed guests! Comrades!

Allow me to...(supplying opening)

same page, paragraph two, from line one reads in PRAVDA: ...honestly that our talks were meaningful [soderzhatelnyy] and useful and...(rewording and supplying vernacular)

page G 4, paragraph five, line three reads in PRAVDA: ...without delay the acute questions of ensuring...(omitting "most")

same page, from same paragraph, penultimate line reads in PRAVDA: ...a theater of war.

We highly appreciate...(substituting "war" for "operations")

FURTHER ON SOVIET REACTION TO ANTONOV TRIAL

Lawyers Discuss Evidence

LD282304 Moscow TASS in English 2227 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- The only direct "evidence" against Bulgarian citizens accused on involvement in the attempt on the life of Pope John Paul II is that invented by fascist terrorist Agca who was sentenced to life imprisonment, the weekly LITERATURNAYA GAZETA writes in its issue of May 29. The article entitled "The Guilt of Sergei Antonov Is Not Proved" quotes opinions of prominent Soviet lawyers who took [part] in a round-table meeting sponsored by the weekly.

In the unanimous opinion of Soviet law experts, Agca decided to "cooperate" with the authorities and has been obediently mounting one lie on top of other in order to have his punishment mitigated. During the 92 interrogations during the preliminary enquiry he made more than 100 false statements. As to so-called "circumstantial" evidence, it is so contradictory and weak that it cannot serve as a basis for the prosecution of Sergey Antonov, Todor Ayvazov and Zhelyo Vasilev. The Rome court trying the case, therefore, has the sole option: To find the Bulgarian citizens not guilty for lack of evidence and acquit them, prominent Soviet lawyers believe.

During the last interrogations it was explained to Agca that if the court determined that he had made false charges against other persons and groundlessly accused them of complicity in the attempt on the life of the head of the Roman Catholic Church, in other words, if Agca suddenly renounced his calumnious accusations against the Bulgarian citizens, he would be prosecuted for informing falsely against other persons and in that case would not be able to hope for being pardoned by the president of the Italian Republic, the Soviet lawyers said. Thus, an ultimatum of sorts was served to Agca. In practice this means that his road of retreat has been cut.

We see how elementary guarantees against unfounded accusations are being trampled upon in the eyes of everyone, said Academician Vladimir Kudryavstev who took part in the discussion. One gains the impression that some forces there are sometimes paramount to the rule of law. Precisely they are trying to send the case in a wrong track. But I would like to say that there is one more force -- that of world democratic opinion. It allows of no compromises. Its appraisal of the events discussed here will be true and therefore just.

Jurist on Agca Testimony

LD282338 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0825 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Moscow, 28 May (TASS) -- The crudest violations of professional standards during the preliminary investigation of the case of Antonov have already been convincingly proved by jurists and covered in the press, says Gleb Starushenko, general secretary of the Soviet International Law Association, merited jurist of the RSFSR, and corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Commenting to a TASS correspondent on the trial which has begun in Rome of Bulgarian citizen Sergey Antonov, accused of complicity in the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II, he recalled that all the accusations were based on the confused evidence of an already convicted professional assassin, Agca the Turk, and on this evidence alone. He himself has admitted on dozens of occasions that many of his statements were false. Building a charge only on the evidence of one person, who has, moreover, been convicted for this affair, means violating not only the generally recognized norm of the contemporary criminal trial but also the principle which was even familiar in ancient Rome: "Testis unus testis nullus" ("One witness is no witness").

I would also like to draw the public's attention to the foreign political aspect of this trial, said G. Starushenko. In the modern world any illegality or injustice of this kind encroaches upon the interests of not only the person or persons against whom it is committed. By undermining people's faith in the law, either national or international, it encourages lawlessness and arbitrariness and undermines international law and order. It is precisely from this position that I view the Antonov affair, the Soviet jurist stressed.

The goal behind the fabrication of this affair is obvious: to charge Bulgaria and other socialist states with terrorist activity and thus deflect the world public's attention from the policy of state terrorism being pursued by the United States and certain of its allies. No one is blameless today, they say; everyone is guilty. And if this is so, then the CIA can send in hired killers, recruit mercenaries, and topple governments not to their liking.

This simple little idea is being fed into the world press in a little brochure that Washington is sending to editorial offices entitled "International Aspects of the Attempt on the Life of the Pope of Rome: A Model of State Terrorism." The authors of this provocation are counting on using it to fan anti-Soviet hysteria, G. Starushenko noted in conclusion.

Students Rally in Moscow

LD282219 Moscow TASS in English 1848 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- Arbitrary decisions of Italian judicial authorities as a result of which Bulgarian citizen Sergey Antonov went on trial cause wrath and indignation of Soviet people. Protesting against the dirty provocation in Rome, they brand its organizers and demand that Antonov be released. The court trial of Sergey Antonov has become one of the most shameful pages in the history of international justice. The CIA played the leading role in instigating that provocation, said the speakers at a protest rally held at the Moscow Energy Institute.

"During the investigation into the 'case' of Sergey Antonov a basic democartic principle of justice was violated -- that of presumed innocence", said Mikhail Pisakin, secretary of the Komsomol committee of the institute. "This has been proved beyond doubt by numerous studies carried out by progressively-minded lawyers. That is why the attempt to accuse Sergey Antonov of involvement in the attempt on the life of the head of the Roman Catholic Church solely on the basis of evidence of the lying terrorist, Turkish neonazist Agca, cannot but cause perplexion, to say the least. [quotation marks as received]

There is no doubt, the speaker emphasises, that the purpose of the provocative propaganda campaign started around the Antonov 'case' is to blacken the image of Bulgaria and other countries of the socialist community.

Foreign students at the Moscow energy university joined in the protests of their Soviet co-evals. Said Husayki Akram of Lebanon:

"In capitalist countries unfair sentence are handed daily fighters for peace, democracy and socialism. However, the trial of Sergey Antonov in Rome is an especially large-scale provocation. The strength and achievements of socialist countries, the struggle waged by national liberation forces frighten imperialists and there is no crime they will stop at. However, no amount of court pettifogging will be able to annihilate the truth. The truth is stronger than lies."

Those present at the rally demanded an immediate release of Sergey Antonov and the termination of the anti-Bulgarian, anti-socialist provocative campaign.

MARSHAL AKHROMEYEV CONCLUDES VISIT TO FINLAND

Meets Koivisto, Departs

LD231648 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 23 May 85

[Text] Helsinki May 23 TASS -- Chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces of the USSR, First Deputy Defence Minister of the USSR Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev now on an official visit to Finland was received today by the President of the Republic of Finland Mauno Koivisto.

They had a talk, which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Taking part in the talk was Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces of Finland General Jaakko Valtanen.

The Ambassador of the USSR in Finland Vladimir Sobolev attended the meeting.

On the same day Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev left for home.

At Helsinki airport he was seen off by Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces of Finland Jaakko Valtanen, Chief of the Main Staff Vice-Admiral Jan Klenberg, other generals and officers, and also the USSR's Ambassador in Finland Vladimir Sobolev.

Returns to Moscow

PM281855 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 May 85 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under the general heading "Visit Ended"]

[Text] On 23 May Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, returned to Moscow. He had been on an official visit to Finland at the invitation of General J. Valtanen, commander in chief of the Finnish Defense Forces.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev was met at Sheremetyevo Airport by Marshal of the Soviet Union S.K. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister, and generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Major S. Kijanlinna, acting military, naval, and air attache at the Finnish Embassy in the USSR, was also in the welcoming party.

CPSU DELEGATION RETURNS FROM SPAIN 25 MAY

PM281421 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Return to Moscow"]

[Text] The CPSU delegation headed by B.A. Zhitenev, secretary of Sverdlovsk CPSU Obkom, which participated in the measures of the Communist Party (Spain) devoted to the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, returned to Moscow from Spain 25 May.

SPAIN'S SERRA ARGUES FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP

PM281515 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 May 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Vernikov dispatch: "Spain: Defense Minister's Interview"]

[Text] Madrid -- The government has started its previously announced propaganda campaign of "enlightening" the future participants in the referendum on the country's membership of NATO with a long TV interview with Defense Minister N. Serra on the problems of Spain's relations with this military organization. The authorities' task lies in "convincing Spaniards of the expediency of staying in NATO as a guaranteed way out of the isolation which promoted the establishment of a dictatorship in the recent past." To put it bluntly, it is a difficult task bearing in mind the anti-NATO and antiwar movements in Spain and the arguments that are extremely vulnerable to criticism.

Just what did the defense minister say specifically? N. Serra stressed that the government has informed its allies of its wish to remain within the NATO framework "at the present stage of integration," that is, without participating in the activity of the bloc's military structures, and of its intention to maintain its nuclear-free status and strive to reduce the U.S. presence in the country (it is a question of closing some U.S. military bases -- V.V.).

As for the forthcoming referendum, the defense minister said that it would "undoubtedly be held" and that the government must make the appropriate decision on the basis of its results (clarifying and weighing up all the consequences). Explaining the "advantages" of Spain's staying in NATO, he stated that within the bloc framework army modernization would not be costly and per capita defense spending would be comparatively small.

The interview paid virtually no attention to the mood of the broad strata of Spanish society, who are demanding the country's immediate withdrawal from NATO.

SOVIET-SWEDISH COOPERATION SESSION BEGINS

LD271734 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 27 May 85

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- The widening of mutually advantageous trade and intensive development of new, progressive forms of business ties are the main items on the agenda of the 13th session of the intergovernmental Soviet-Swedish commission on economic, scientific and technical cooperation that opened here today. It is presided over by Vladislav Malkevich, deputy minister of foreign trade of the USSR. The Swedish delegation is led by Thage Petersen, minister of industry.

The Soviet Union declares resolutely for the development and deepening of business cooperation with Sweden, Vladislav Malkevich said at the opening of the session. Good foundations for the intensification of these ties were laid down in the past year: agreements on coastal trade, on cooperation in agriculture were, specifically, signed. The partners are cooperating successfully in the spheres of science and technology. Soviet foreign trade associations are analyzing a number of projects connected with the deliveries of machinery, equipment and other goods from Sweden. Contracts on equipment for the wood-working and dairy industries, for hoisting and transport machinery, modernization of tools manufacture were signed since the beginning of this year. The possibilities for the further development of trade are far from exhausted, Vladislav Malkevich noted. He came out in favour of the widening of the list of Soviet goods exported to Sweden, specifically that of machinery and equipment. The session of the Soviet-Swedish commission will last for three days.

PRAVDA REPORTS WEST BEIRUT FACTIONAL FIGHTING

PM281533 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Counter to Lebanon's Interests"]

[Text] Beirut, 23 May -- In recent days fierce clashes have been taking place in West Beirut between detachments of the Shi'ite Amal movement and armed formations of Palestinians. The sides are using heavy weapons and are firing on a number of the city's residential districts. Beirut International Airport has been closed. The Lebanese press believes that the present clashes are the fiercest and most extensive in many months. According to preliminary figures, the number of casualties is in excess of 100 dead and 700 wounded. At the same time, it is believed here that in reality there are considerably more dead and wounded. At present it is impossible to obtain precise figures because ambulances cannot reach the Palestinian camps and the destroyed regions of the capital's southern suburbs.

Amal movement detachments have partially succeeded in establishing control over the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila and they are now fighting in Burj al-Barajinah. It is also reported that the Palestinians are continuing their resistance, retreating into the catacombs.

It is obvious that the bloody internecine clashes, irrespective of who is the initiator, are causing enormous damage to Lebanon's national interests and are hampering the attainment of the main aims of all the country's patriotic forces; the total liberation of Lebanese soil from the Israeli occupiers and their agents, the restoration of national sovereignty, the safeguarding of stability and security, and the conservation of Lebanon's close ties with other Arab countries. It is indicative in this connection that the Lebanese progressive parties and organizations are refraining from direct participation in the armed clashes and are appealing for an immediate end to the bloodshed.

PRAVDA CITES RABIN REMARKS ON PALESTINIAN STATE

PM281325 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Cynical Frankness"]

[Text] London, 26 May -- "Israel will never agree to talks with the PLO and will never consent to the creation of a Palestinian state," Israeli Defense Minister Rabin declared in a SUNDAY TIMES interview.

This is far from being the first such cynical statement. Previously, other representatives of Israel's ruling Zionist clique have also made such "revelations," thereby denying the right of the Arab people of Palestine to national self-determination. Here, however, they forget that statements and actions of this kind by the Israeli leadership virtually cut the legal ground from under the existence of Israel itself, since the resolution on the partition of Palestine adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 1947 provides for the creation of two independent sovereign states on its territory. The fact that the state of Israel subsequently seized the Arabs' primordial lands by unleashing a number of aggressive wars against neighboring Arab countries with the support of American imperialism merely emphasizes the need for the speediest restoration of the Arab peoples' legitimate rights. As provided for in the UN resolution, the inalienable rights of the Arab people of Palestine to national self-determination and the creation of their own independent state must also be realized.

NICARAGUA'S NUNEZ SAYS U.S. PLANNINC ATTACKS

LD251812 Moscow TASS in English 1740 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Managua May 25 TASS -- Carlos Nunez, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, chairman of the National Assembly of Nicaragua, has stated here that the secret services of Washington are preparing a series of terroristic actions against diplomatic missions of a number of countries with the provocative aim to cast the blame for them upon the Nicaraguan Government. With this in view, U.S. agencies in charge of subversive operations create special units whose task is to attack foreign diplomatic missions accredited in such countries as, for example, neighbouring Costa Rica. The Reagan admimistration will stop short of nothing in its attempts to compromise Nicaragua in the eyes of the world public, C. Nunez stressed.

U.S. EMBARGO RALLIES NICARAGUAN WORKERS

LD281951 Moscow World Service in English 1310 GMT 28 May 85

[Excerpts] A poster on the facades of many houses in the Nicaraguan capital, Managua, reads: The Nicaraguans do not sell themselves, nor do they surrender. That's how the people of the revolutionary republic are responding to Washington's actions. More about it from our reporter, Viktor Ampilov:

The United States blockade has rallied the Nicaraguan working people. They have received with understanding the government's announcement of some social and economic measures to soften the blow the American sanctions have inflicted on the national economy.

The program provides for using domestic resources as much as possible and saving raw materials, electric power, and fuel, and strictly rationing spare parts and equipment. Much attention is being paid to supplying the population with food and prime necessity goods. Measures have also been adopted to stimulate the state purchasing prices of farm produce. At enterprises, workers themselves have been repairing or manufacturing the components of machinery and equipment Washington has declined to supply.

A mass movement has got under way for saving energy and handling equipment with care. According to the newspaper, BARRICADA, which comes out in Managua, Washington's sanctions have evoked no support, even in the capitalist world. France, Spain, Sweden, Canada, Austria and many other courtries have refused to join in a trade conspiracy against Nicaragua. It's clear that the all-out economic blockade Washington has declared on an independent nation has failed. All the more so that Nicaragua has been effectively backed up by the socialist countries and liberated states.

No wonder the United States President has again been demanding that the Congress provide millions of dollars to maintain bandits recruited from among the remnants of Somoza troops. Washington plans to use them to disrupt the country's economy. It has become known that the Central Intelligence Agency has worked out a plan to use them to smuggle terrorist groups into Nicaragua for economic sabotage. According to Nicaraguan press reports, smuggled CIA agents will also carry out subversive actions to provoke a United States intervention. Some reports reveal plans for attacking foreign embassies in Managua.

Bandits have been sparing no one. The revolution has brought the people and the army together and whatever aid the bandits may receive from their bosses in Washington, they will fail.

INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED FOR CHILEAN PROTEST DAY

PY290218 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2030 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Intense preparations are under way for the National Day of Mobilization for Life and Democracy called by unions, community groups, and political and socioeconomic organizations that oppose Pinochet's dictatorship.

Thursday, 30 May, has been designated as a day of mobilization, of national protest, to repudiate the dictatorship and to demand democracy now. Collective actions that will be taken on 30 May in work places, schools, and poor districts are now being planned.

The instructions for the mobilization urge the people not to send their children to school, to refrain from entering any public office, to beat pots and pans in the evening, to stage strikes, to hold meetings in universities, factories, and enterprises, and to take other similar actions.

The national day of mobilization is also designed to demand the lifting of the state of siege, the dissolution of the gestapo of the dictatorship, the National Intelligence Center, an end to press censorship, the closure of the Pisagua and Colqui concentration camps, the release of political prisoners, the return of all exiles, and an end to all banishments.

Another major demand is that the recent crimes committed by security organizations be cleared up, especially the kidnapping and brutal murder of Ramon Guerrero, a professor and union leader; of Jose Manuel Parada, a sociologist and official of the Vicariate of Solidarity; and of Santiago Natino, a well-known artist.

Various organizations of Chilean exiles will also adopt measures to participate in the drive by promoting solidarity actions and by staging demonstrations and specific actions of support and propaganda.

KUZNETSOV RECEIVES OUTGOING ARGENTINE ENVOY

LD282118 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2035 GMT 28 May 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Kuznetsov today received Ernesto de la Guardia, the Argentine ambassador to the USSR, at the argentine envoy's request, in connection with his final departure from the Soviet Union. A friendly conversation took place.

DYBENKO-LED CPSU DELEGATION ARRIVES IN BOLIVIA

PM280930 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Arrives"]

[Text] La Paz, 25 May -- A CPSU delegation headed by N.K. Dybenko, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and second secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, has arrived here at the invitation of the Communist Party of Bolivia (PCB).

The delegation was met at the international airport by Simon Reyes, first secretary of the PCB Central Committee; members of the Central Committee Political Commission; and leaders of Bolivia's communist youth.

RUSAKOV SPEAKS AT MARI 400TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVITIES

LD252129 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 25 May 85

[Text] Today is a big holiday for the capital of the Mari Autonomous Republic. The town of Yoshkar-Ola has been awarded the Order of the Labor Red Banner for successes in economic and cultural construction and in connection with its 400th anniversary. A festive meeting of representatives of party, administrative and public organizations, labor collectives, party, war and labor veterans, was held there today, devoted to the presentation of the lofty award of the motherland. Warmly welcomed by those present, Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, spoke at the meeting:

[Begin Rusakov recording] Dear Comrades! May I, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Soviet Government, heartily congratulate you, the working people of the town and of the whole public, on the deserved award of the motherland.

Our celebration today reflects both pride in what has been achieved, and awareness of the necessity to go forward more quickly. It blends in with the deeds and concerns of the whole country, and with the preparations under way for the 27th CPSU Congress, which will be a milestone in the life of Soviet society. The decisions of the April Central Committee Plenum the tasks in the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development, in intensification of production and in activization of all sectors of the political system, set forth in the speeches by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee -- comrades, these are the purposeful program of action of the party and of the whole of the Soviet people. The main slogans of the moment formulated by the party -- creative labor, unity of word and deed, initiative, responsibility, exactingness -- are meeting with unanimous support from Soviet people.

Comrades, the history of a town is similar to a man's biography. Its worth is first and foremost in its labor content, its contribution to social progress. The award of the Labor Red Banner to Yoshkar-Ola bears witness to the weightiness of this contribution, which has been formed by the efforts of many generations of townspeople, by those who selflessly struggled for freedom, for victory of the revolution, those who persistently built and defended socialism, and who today take an active part in construction of communism.

Whatever aspect of Yoshkar-Ola's life one may take -- production, education and science, culture, health care -- all of them through their rise show convincingly the fruits of the real socialism built in our country. This applies in full to the whole republic as well. The old-timers still remember, and the younger people know from their stories and from books, that before the revolution there were only a few domestic enterprises here. Now there are more than 150 works and factories, almost a third of them in Yoshkar-Ola itself. In 1 day, the industry of the Mari ASSR produces five times the output that was produced in a whole year before the formation of the republic.

Although we have gathered today for festivities, it will evidently be correct if, in the spirit of the Leninist traditions, while paying our due to what has been achieved, we also think about how production may be developed even more energetically in future, with the requirements of the production being satisfied more fully at the same time.

The CPSU Central Committee calls for a businesslike, enterprising style to be introduced in all sectors of work. This concerns one and all. Creative, selfless labor from the Soviet person at his workplace, a high level of awareness, and precise organization of production -- these are most important factors for the successful fulfillment of the current 5-year plan and creation of the necessary reserve for the future. At the same time, this is the very foundation for the further growth of our motherland's economic and defense might, and is a real and weighty contribution to the struggle of the party and the Soviet state for a lasting and stable peace on earth. [applause] [end recording]

To applause from those gathered, Konstantin Viktorovich Rusakov pinned the award of the motherland to the town's banner. Those who spoke at the meeting assured the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government that the working people of the town and the autonomous republic will give over all their strength, knowledge and experience to the noble cause of construction of communism.

PRAVDA Reports Mari Activities

PM281051 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 85 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Stay in the Mari ASSR"]

[Text] Yoshkar-Ola, 26 May -- K.V. Rusakov has met with the party aktiv of the autonomous republic at the CPSU obkom, visited the Elektraovtomatika Plant and the Vitamin Plant, and familiarized himself with the work of educational and cultural establishments and trade enterprises. He inquired about progress in fulfilling plans and socialist pledges. During meetings with representatives of labor collectives and with party and soviet workers questions of the fulfillment of the March and April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum decisions on accelerating scientific and technical progress and more quickly transferring the economy to an intensive path of development were touched on. There was discussion of improving ideological work and strengthening the influence of communists in all sectors of economic building.

Note was taken of the need to disseminate more vigorously the experience of progressive collectives which are purposefully improving production by making extensive use of robot equipment and introducing progressive technologies and processes. Special attention was paid to refining all elements of the large-scale economic experiment in which local enterprises are participating. The importance of measures to strengthening discipline and order, to combat drunkenness and alcoholism, and to improve people's working, living, and leisure conditions was emphasized during the talks.

K. V. Rusakov laid flowers at the monument to V.I. Lenin and the memorial of military glory.

CPSU SECRETARY NIKONOV VISITS UKRAINE

AU231324 Kiev RADYANSKA UKRAINA in Ukrainian 19 May 85 pp 1, 3

[RATAU report: "Increasing Returns From the Agro-industrial Complex"]

[Text] From 14 to 17 May, V.P. Nikonov, CPSU Central Committee secretary, visited the Ukraine. While in Cherkassy and Poltava Oblasts, he visited a number of rayons, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and scientific institutions, inquired about progress in implementing 26th CPSU Congress decisions and the directives of the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum concerning the comprehensive development of agriculture and the branches of the agricultural complex related to it, and about the problems of accelerating the implementation of the country's food program.

At the meetings and in the conversations held, field toilers, stockbreeders, specialists, scientists, war and labor veterans, and youths warmly approved the domestic and foreign policy pursued by the CPSU, the purposeful and fruitful activity of the Central Committee and its Politburo, and meansures taken to strengthen the homeland's economic and defense potential, to foster order and good organization in production and everyday life, to strengthen discipline, and to overcome harmful habits and remnants, above all drunkenness and alcoholism.

The Dnipro Kolkhoz in Cherkassy Oblast is renowned for many good things. Year in and year out, it obtains plentiful grain and industrial crops, and high productivity in stockbreeding. While visiting the farm, V.P. Nikonov inspected the fields under intensively raised wheat, corn, and other crops, inquired about the work carried out to improve the soil, to observe scientifically substantiated crop rotations, and to apply in production scientific and technical achievements. Having noted creative inquisitiveness among the kolkhoz toilers, the CPSU Central Committee secretary pointed out the important role played by specialists in accelerating scientific-technical progress, and in spreading progressive -- primarily industrial -- technologies and advanced experience. In doing this, he said, a maximum economic effect should be obtained on the basis of a thorough mastering of progressive practices and of faultlessly performing in the field each technological operation. An increase in yields should compensate without fail for additional outlays.

At the dairy farm, V.P. Nikonov familiarized himself with the experience of improving the breed and raising the productivity of Simmenthal cattle by crossing them with Holstein cattle. Owing to this practice, the farm is obtaining nearly 5,000 kilograms of milk per cow.

The issue of increasing stockbreeding production was tackled at the meeting with the personnel of the Shpola inter-farm enterprise for cattle fattening. The enterprise has for a year been bringing to delivery conditions a herd of nearly 7,000 cattle sent from the neighboring farms. During conversations with the leaders and specialists, the point was emphasized that the collective must not be content with what has been achieved and that it still had quite a few opportunities to increase the production of high-quality meat, primarily by raising the delivery weight of 2-year old animals to 650 kilograms. This technology, the CPSU Central Committee secretary said, is to be applied immediately. Great reserves for strengthening the fodder basis, for raising stockbreeding productivity, and for improving animal fecundity were also discussed at the pig breeding complex of the Zhdanov Kolkhoz.

During the inspection of the oblast research station and of the May Day Kolkhoz, much attention was paid to the application directly in each field of a scientific cropping system, to the search for ways to grow strong and valuable wheat strains and food grain, to increase the sugar content in sugar beets and to improve the quality of other crops, and to meet standards regarding zonal varieties. Additional outlays connected with the application of intensive technology must fully justify themselves.

While in Cherkassy Obkiom, V.P. Nikonov met the oblast's party and economic aktivs and leaders of the agro-industrial complex. It was noted that the April Central Committee Plenum requested party committees and agricultural leader to critically evaluate what had been done, and to trace the ways of hastening the implementation of the food program. In the oblast, whose toilers have initiated all-union competitions to increase the output of stockbreeding produce, many problems are being successfully settled, but there are still quite a few unused reserves. More concern should be displayed about the fodder base and the quality of feed. It is important not to slacken attention to increasing overall beet yields and sugar production.

Party organizations are expected to improve work among the cadres of farm managers and specialists, to see to it that they are stable, professionally competent, and well-familiarized with progressive technologies. The need was raised to perfect the control and organization of labor, and to cultivate a thrifty attitude toward communal property.

Important problems concerning increased returns from every hectare of land, higher crop yields, the struggle against production losses, and improvements in control over the agro-industrial complex were examined in detail during the visit paid to a number of Poltava Oblast farms.

At the Mayak Kolkhoz and the Krupskaya Sovkhoz, both in Globinskiy Rayon, V.P. Nikonov inspected wheat, sugar beets, and peas sown in the fields tilled with shallow plow shares. The topics discussed were how to observe the norms of seeding and applying fertilizers, and how to apply in a competent way the means to protect plants against vermin and diseases. Concrete steps, which are to be taken for this purpose by farm managers, specialists, and agricultural bodies, were tackled. Much attention was also paid to questions concerning the increased production of coarse and juicy feed, improvements in the quality of fodder and in zootechnical work. It is necessary to improve the organization of crop tending.

At the meeting with the leaders and scientists of the Veselyy Podol research and selection station under the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Sugar Beets, the importance was emphasized to raise the effectiveness of research, and to increase its impact on the settlement of concrete tasks confronting farms. At the Ivanenko Kolkhoz, V.P. Nikonov inquired about the performance of the state strain testing plot, and at the 26th CPSU Congress Kolkhoz in Reshetilovskiy Rayon, and the Mayak Komunizmu Kolkhoz in Novosanzharskiy Rayon -- about the results of growing basic crops with the application of modern technologies.

While inspecting farms, the visitor discussed in detail questions concerning the development of private farms run by rural toilers, the progress made in comprehensive village development and in the planning and organization of public services and amenities, further improvements in social, cultural, and living conditions for farmers and stockbreeders, efforts to retain young people in their native places, and to stabilize labor collectives.

A conversation was held with Poltava Obkom bureau members and with subunit leaders of the agro-industrial complex. Positive exchanges were noted in the development of the oblast's agriculture. What matters now most is to make skillful and thrifty use of the increased possibilities to produce more foodstuffs and of the existing potential. Agro-industrial associations are called upon to play an important role in this respect. The obkom, gorkoms, and raykoms should direct the efforts of the agro-industrial complex and of all agricultural organizations at attaining better final results at kolkhozes and sovkhozes. During the conversation it was emphasized that, in the interests of intensified farming and stockbreeding, effective cost accountancy should be applied more vigorously, control over material, labor, and cash outlays should be intensified, and a draft system applied. Collective contracting is to be practiced more vigorously so that all -- both rank and file laborers and specialists -- are interested in raising production and reducing production cost.

Questions concerning the consolidation of labor, planning, and technological discipline, and the maintenance of proper order at every working place were touched upon.

V.P. Nikonov called attention to the fact that at a time when our party and country were preparing for the forthcoming congress, it was highly important for every Communist, every rural toiler, for leaders at every level, and for all rural party organizations to fulfill the plans set for the current year and the 5-year period as a whole, and to maximally compensate for the shortfalls incurred.

On the tour, V.P. Nikonov was accompanied by Yu. P. Kolomiyets, Ukranian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo candidate member and Council of Ministers first deputy chairman; I.K. Lutak, Cherkassy Obkom first secretary; F.T. Morgun, Poltava Obkok first secretary; N.N. Kovalenko, sector chief in the Agriculture and Food Industry Department of the CPSU Central Committee; A.D. Kovalenko, chief of the Agriculture and Food Industry Department in the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee; A.N. Tkachenko, Ukranian minister of agriculture; N.S. Ivlev, Cherkassy Oblispolkom first deputy chairman; and A.S. Myakota, Poltava Oblispolkom chairman.

STALIN-ERA PROSECUTOR HONORED AT 27 MAY CEREMONY

PM281101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 May 85 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Fighter for Socialist Ideals"]

[Text] Our people express feelings of sincere gratitude to the veterans of the revolution -- those who stood at the roots of October and the Soviet state. The life of this party guard provides not only invaluable practical experience but still-relevant moral lessons for present and future generations of young people. N.V. Krylenko, the statesman and party figure and eminent lawyer, the 100th anniversary of whose birth Soviet people are celebrating, is one of this Leninist galaxy of revolutionaries.

A ceremonial session held in Moscow on 27 May was devoted to this portentous date. The report of USSR Minister of Justice B.V. Kravtsov and the speeches by N.A. Bazhenov, USSR first deputy prosecutor general, and others said that the pages of N.V. Krylenko's biography were vivid landmarks in the struggle for the great cause of Lenin. His military activity is well known, he was the first Soviet supreme commander in chief of the People's Army.

During the years of building socialism, when the party entrusted Nikolay Vasilyevich with the posts of prosecutor of the Republic, and subsequently RSFSR and USSR people's commissar for justice, he made a great contribution to strengthening socialist legality and to creating a unified Soviet judicial system. As a major theoretician of legal thought, N.V. Krylenko wrote a number of scientific works on the problems of the Marxist-Leninist theory of law and justice. Wherever the party sent him, the speakers stressed, Nikolay Vasilyevich showed himself everywhere to be an outstanding organizer and inflexible fighter for the triumph of socialist ideals.

Senior workers from the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers and the leaders of law enforcement organs, scientists, and party veterans took part in the session.

AFP on Former Prosecutor

AU280811 Paris AFP in English 0716 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Moscow, May 28 (AFP) -- Nikolay Krylenko, the first prosecutor of the pre-war Stalin purges, was today shown discreet respect on the 100th anniversary of his birth by the Communist Party daily newspaper PRAVDA.

PRAVDA reported an official ceremony held here in his honour, praising Krylenko for his "great contribution to strengthening socialist legality."

Krylenko was the prosecutor in the first big purge trial in 1928 when 53 engineers and technicians of the Donbas coal basin were arbitrarily accused of "sabotage and espionage."

He was himself the victim of a purge, and was shot in 1938 after a show trial in the hall of trade unions. The Stalinist 1953 edition of the "Great Soviet Encyclopedia" does not mention his name.

In the volume's last edition, issued during the Brezhnev era, he was described as the "prosecutor of the great purge trials," but the fact that he was shot at Stalin's orders was not mentioned.

RSFSR MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE APPOINTED

PM281359 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 29 May 85

[Unattributed "announcement"]

[Text] The Presidium of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet has appointed Comrade V.V. Nikitin RSFSR minister of agriculture.

'CURRENT MAIL' PROGRAM ANSWERS VIEWERS' COMPLAINTS

OW281205 [Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 0640 GMT on 17 May carries its scheduled 30-minute "Current Mail" program presented by Political Observer V.P. Beketov. It begins with Beketov speaking about the 40th anniversary for the victory in the Great Patriotic War and about the good work done by Soviet people during the war. He then quotes from letters from war and labor veterans who complain about television sets and vacuum cleaners going out of order shortly after purchase. Beketov says that he could continue with the list of complaints contained in the letters, adding: "There is an especially large number of complaints about the low quality of television sets. Domestic appliance repair workshops and centers are filled to capacity with Foton, Tveriya, Elektron and Slavutich TV sets which only bring trouble and annoyance instead of joy to their owners. We are not the only ones to manufacture television sets. There are people from whom we can learn and whose methods we can adopt and borrow." Beketov then quotes viewer Yakovlev, of Rechitsa City, Gomel Oblast, who writes that Lenin in his time urged maximum use of achievements of developed capitalist countries be made in socialist construction.

Beketov says that the number of letters of a parasitical character "demanding that somebody come and do something, repair a window pane in the home, clean the yard, restore relations between the letter writer and neighbors, and so forth" is decreasing; that fewer claims are being made about things not having been delivered, made, or installed and which orginate from the hidden thought that the state is rich and it is possible to live at its expense. Beketov says that most of the letters today reject these tendencies and speak about what viewers have done or can do themselves when the issue of shortcomings and shortage is raised.

Beketov then speaks about pensioners living in northern regions of the country and wishing to move to central and southern parts of the country and of the Ukraine offering to give up their homes and move to rural areas. Beketov quotes offers of homes to pensioners coming from villages, and then says that as housing construction in the north costs three to four times as much as in other regions of the country it will be possible to rehouse three to four times as many pensioners from the north at the same cost.

Dealing with the needs of amateur gardeners not being fully met yet, Beketov says that their problems will be solved with the aid of the state as of 1986. He says that most of the viewers' complaints are about where to buy building materials, gardening equipment, and even the simplest tools used by grandfathers and greatgrandfathers while video shows gardening machinery and tools, building materials, prefabricated garden sheds, and prefabricated homes being sold by the "Your Home" store in Kubinka, Moscow Oblast, intercutting to shots of store manager Yefremova saying that gardening machinery is in short supply, that the prefabricated homes erected near the store are sold only to rural residents, that demand for such homes is being studied, and that the store does not have adquate storage space for prefabricated homes at present.

Beketov notes that the demand for lumber in 1984 was satisfied only to the extent of 40 to 60 percent in the country, and that this has led to various kinds of abuses, plundering and speculation, adding that the party and government resolutions adopted recently consider the state of affairs in the sale of building materials to the population to be utterly intolerable, and that the union and republican ministries and administrations have been told to achieve a radical improvement in the field.

Beketov remarks that the number of people working at home increases every year as video cuts to shots of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers' decision for the expansion of local industries, followed by shots of clothing and other items produced for the "Mostekstilprom" Association by people working at home; shots of V.G. Galkin, general director of the association, saying that people working at home produce 30 to 40 percent of the total output of the association, with a correspondent adding that out of 5,500 people employed by the association, 4,000 work at home; and shots of invalids and women with children working at home and speaking about their work and earnings.

The program concludes with Beketov speaking about topics to be dealt with in coming programs.

VATICAN RADIO: ESTONIAN PRIEST ARRESTED

LD281846 Vatican City International Service in German 1400 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] Stockholm -- The Baltic priest (Harry Motznik) was arrested in Estonia at the end of April. He was charged with agitation and anti-Soviet propaganda. A group of Baltic emigres announced this in Stockholm this weekened. The 56-year-old priest fought for human rights in the Soviet Union and had made this topic the content of his sermons again and again. If convicted, the priest faces a sentence of 7 years' forced labor and 5 years' house arrest.

BRIEFS

DEPUTY COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER HONORED -- Today we have received a decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on the award of the Order of the Friendship of the Peoples to Vladimir Ivanovich Glinka, USSR deputy minister of communications. Thus he has been honored for his services in the development and perfection of the country's telephone communications, and on the 60th anniversary of his birth. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1208 GMT 26 May 85 LD]

SOKOLOV ADDRESSES DEFENSE MINISTRY AKTIV MEETING

PM281401 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 May 85 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Increasing Combat Readiness, Strengthening Discipline; Meeting of USSR Defense Ministry Party Aktiv"]

[Text] A meeting of the USSR Defense Ministry party aktiv, which was held 24 May in Moscow, discussed the results of the April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the tasks of the Defense Ministry party organizations arising from the plenum's resolutions.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, delivered a report. Our country and all progressive mankind, he said, widely celebrated the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. In the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet people and their Armed Forces under the leadership of the Communist Party defended the freedom and independence of the socialist motherland and made a decisive contribution to the defeat of Hitlerite Germany and its satellites and to the liberation of the peoples of Europe from fascist slavery. They fulfilled with honor their patriotic and international duty.

With profound faith in the rightness of the immortal Leninist ideas, the Soviet people are approaching the 27th CPSU Congress, which is designed to play an important role in our party's history and in our country's destiny.

The April CPSU Central Committee Plenum confirmed with all conviction the continuity of the strategic course elaborated by the 26th party congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. Soviet people and Army and Navy servicemen, closely rallied around Lenin's party, unanimously approve and support the plenum's decisions. They are preparing to greet the congress with new successes in socialist building and military labor.

Dwelling on questions of the international situation, the keynote speaker noted that reactionary circles of the United States and other imperialist powers are trying to erect a barrier in the way of the progressive changes that are occurring on our planet. Imperialism is expanding the front of subversive actions against the socialist community states and countries that have embarked on the path of national liberation. The United States and its NATO allies are stepping up the arms race, counting on securing military superiority over the USSR and the socialist countries. The plans for the militarization of space pose great danger. The United States has already started to implement large-scale long-term measures aimed at turning space into a sphere of military operations.

Taking account of the buildup in the danger of war, the Communist Party is struggling persistently and tirelessly to secure peace and curb the arms race. All the Soviet Union's initiatives are imbued with one concern -- to ensure general peace.

The Soviet Armed Forces are fulfilling their duty to defend the gains of socialism in a single formation with the armies of the socialist community countries. The Warsaw Pact is a reliable instrument for averting nuclear war and strengthening international security. The aggressive aspirations of the imperialist states and the buildup of the NATO bloc's military preparations compel us to take every measure to further strengthen our defensive alliance. The unanimous decision of the socialist community countries to extend the term of the Warsaw Pact is a fitting response to the West's aggressive plans.

The keynote speaker went on to say that the Soviet Union, as stressed at the plenum, has at its disposal enormous potential and inexhaustible resources; but in order to translate them into reality, tireless and intensive work is needed. The period of preparation for the 27th congress will be a time of big deeds and important decisions, of profound analysis and realistic appraisals of what has been achieved, and of exposures and eliminations of shortcomings which hinder progress. This period must be full of intensive labor and bold thinking and must provide scope for people's initiative and creativity. Everything that has been said applies completely to the Armed Forces and we must proceed on this basis.

Speaking of the Armed Forces' tasks arising from the plenum's decisions, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov stressed that they comprise a program of work for the long term for Army communists in increasing the combat readiness of troops and naval forces.

The Armed Forces have now completed the winter training period. According to the results of this, most of the formations and units examined showed positive results. The Army and Navy have achieved a considerable amount that is good and useful, but there are still omissions in combat training. Unfortunately, not all Army and Navy communists assess their shortcomings self-critically.

The demands to teach what is necessary in war must be the foundation of all the activity of Defense Ministry communists. For our part exceptional principledness must be displayed in this matter. We must start with ourselves.

The Armed Forces are beginning to fulfill the tasks of the summer training period. Guided by the plenum's decisions, it is necessary to secure further improvement in the quality of work of all links of the leadership and to firmly and uncompromisingly implement the adopted course of intensifying exactingness and severity, resolutely eliminating shortcomings, and rigorously fulfilling the projected tasks.

The plenum noted that communists must do everything to be equal to the responsibility and big tasks dictated by time. This must be the guiding demand in the activity of all Armed Forces' party organizations. Exactingness, principledness, and persistence in achieving the set goals must be sharply increased. Exactingness must take the form of concrete leadership, intransigence toward any shortcomings, and skill in objectively assessing the real state of affairs.

Defense Ministry communists must constantly influence all aspects of Army and Navy life and activity. The main efforts must be focused primarily on increasing combat readiness, organizing management, and elaborating new questions of military science and art. At the same time daily leadership of combat and political training of troops and naval forces must be persistently improved. Every party organization and every communist must draw the appropriate conclusions for themselves and clearly define their own place in the resolution of tasks set by the party. It is only in this way that the plenum's demand -- to set in motion all reserves and utilize all our available potential -- can be fulfilled.

The present stage of development of the Armed Forces involves major changes in the means of armed struggle and the appearance of a number of new types of weapons and equipment is greatly influencing the nature and methods of waging combat operations and demands a higher standard of combat readiness.

Speaking of the main avenues of work in maintaining strong discipline and firm regulation order among troops, the defense minister particularly highlighted the role of personal example and high exactingness on the part of officers and communist leaders.

He noted the need to further step up party influence on the whole multifaceted activity to foster a sense of high responsibility in every communist.

Party organs must improve organization and verification of performance, step up monitoring of the fulfillment of party decisions, and increase exactingness toward every communist and his personal accountability for the state of affairs in his sector.

The 27th CPSU Congress will be preceded in the Army and Navy by reports and elections of party organs and the holding of party conferences. During these there will be a comprehensive analysis of party work in tackling tasks of combat readiness, building and training the Armed Forces, educating personnel, and strengthening military discipline.

Ahead of us lie important, crucial matters, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov said in conclusion. For the Armed Forces 1985 -- the year of preparation for the 27th Communist Party Congress -- must be the year of a further increase in the might and combat readiness of the Army and Navy. High results in our work in this direction will be the best response to the decisions of the April CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Army General A.A. Yepishev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, addressed the party aktiv meeting. It must always be taken into account in party work, he noted, that the tasks of controlling the Army Forces are constantly expanding and becoming more complex. Party organizations cannot tolerate instances of the standard of personal operational and military-technical preparedness of individual workers lagging behind the increased demands being made on troops training. There is room for party committees and bureaus to exert efforts in tackling the important question of increasing the skills of officers who have newly arrived at the central apparatus and providing them with assistance in mastering the art of control activity.

The practical tasks arising from the results of the April plenum must be comprehensively examined at meetings of the party aktiv, in corresponding political organs, and also primary party organizations of the central apparatus. The tasks and avenues of work of the political command personnel must be discussed comprehensively at training sessions and regulation courses.

Great work lies ahead to implement a package of agitation and propaganda measures and profoundly study the plenum's materials and precongress documents, primarily that fundamental document -- the new edition of the Party Program.

Also taking part in the discussion of the report were Army General Ye. F. Ivanovskiy, Army General V.M. Shabanov, Admiral P.N. Medvedev, and others. They analyzed a broad range of questions connected with further strengthening organization and discipline and increasing the Armed Forces' combat readiness.

The participants in the meeting of the USSR Defense Ministry party aktiv assured the party Central Committee that Army and Navy communists will exert all their strength, knowledge, and experience to implement the decisions of the April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

CHEBRIKOV ATTENDS BORDER TROOPS DAY MEETING

LD282141 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 28 May 85

[Text] A festive meeting of representatives of working people in the capital, a complement of border guards of the USSR Committee of State Security, and men of the Moscow Garrison, devoted to Border Troops Day, was held in Moscow today. Comrade Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the USSR Committee of State Security; Comrade Smirnov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Savinkin, head of a CPSU Central Committee department; military chiefs, leaders of party, local government and public organizations; and veteran border guards were in the presidium.

The meeting was addressed by Comrade Matrosov, head of the border guards of the USSR Committee of State Security and Army general. The participants in the meeting assured the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government that they would make every effort to further increase the reliability of the guard mounted along the sacred borders of the socialist homeland.

In honor of the sentries guarding Soviet borders, festive fireworks were let off today in Hero-City Moscow, the capital of our motherland; the capitals of union republics; the Hero-Cities of Leningrad, Volgograd, Sevastopol, Odessa, Novorossiysk, Kerch, Tula, Murmansk, and Smolensk; the Hero-Fortress Brest; and also in Vladivostok, Khabarovsk, Chita, and Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskiy.

BORDER TROOP OFFICIAL ON TROOPS' EFFECTIVENESS

LD281423 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0800 GMT on 28 May broadcasts a 10-minute report on the occasion of Border Troops Day during its "Time, Events, People" program hosted by (Tatyana Nikolayeva). The report opens with Lieutenant General Vladimir Stepanovich (Ivanov), head of the USSR KGB Border Troops' Political Administration, who states: "A great upsurge of patriotic enthusiasm presently reigns at the borders: this has been evoked by the decisions of the April 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the 40th anniversary of the Great Victory, and the important measures undertaken by the party and Soviet Government to improve many aspects of the life of socialist society. The Border Troops share the Soviet people's pride in the increase of the USSR's international prestige and are vigilantly carrying out their responsible task, as they have since the very first days of the socialist revolution's victory when they were formed by Leninist decree. They have trodden a difficult but glorious path since 1918. They have to their credit rendered tens of thousands of spies, saboteurs, and terrorists harmless, and have routed hundreds of bands, sabotage, and reconnaissance groups sent into our country in various years."

He notes that the Border Troops played a great role in the fight against fascism and Japanese militarism, and then makes reference to the April CPSU Central Committee Plenum, at which it was noted that the international situation remains worrisome and dangerous and that imperialism has stepped up its pressure against the socialist countries in recent years.

Lt Gen (Ivanov), in reference to the Border Troops' state of readiness and reliability says: "Attempting to introduce intelligence activity into our territory and to step up ideological sabotage, the class enemy is testing the reliability of the guard that is maintained at many sectors of the border, and the border guards' ideological steadfastness.

"All of this creates a situation that demands of border guards well-forged service [russ chekannaya sluzhba] constant combat readiness, and the highest possible political vigilance." He adds that the border guards are equipped to carry out the responsible tasks with which they are entrusted: "Servicemen at frontier posts and on ships have to conduct a struggle against an enemy who at the present time, makes use of cases, against specially-trained, well-armed trespassers. The troops accurately execute the tasks entrusted to them, and, if the majority of sabotage actions on the border fail in the zone for which the border troops are responsible, we are indebted for this primarily to the high vigilance, heroism, cool-headedness, and courage of the motherland's sentinels...Thousands of border guards have been awarded orders and medals; nine border guards have had the lofty title of Hero of the Soviet Union conferred upon them for combat deeds carried out in the post-war period of peace for our country."

(Ivanov) makes note of the results of the first stage of this year's socialist competition, which, he says, have been summed up for Border Troops Day as follows: Over 40 percent of guards have gained distinction; one in five border posts and one in four patrol boats have gained an excellence distinction. (Ivanov) continues: "A number of border units were recently awarded the orders of the Red Banner and the Fatherland War First Degree for successes in combat training and political training; among them was the Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov Border Detachment."

(Ivanov) highlights the particularly responsible role of Communists in guarding the Soviet borders. He says that "their personal example, human firmness, selflessness, steadfastness, and daily heroism fuse military collectives into a stable monolith that withstands all difficulties."

(Ivanov) speaks of the close cooperation between the border troops and Soviet Army and Navy units and the organs of the Internal Affairs Ministry with active assistance from the border population. This close cooperation, enshrined in law, is demonstrated by the fact that, according to Ivanov, "one in seven border violators and the border system is apprehended with the help of members of people's volunteer militias, Komsomol flying squads, the young comrades of the border guards." (Ivanov) expresses the Border Troops' gratitude to party town, rayon, and oblast committees and local authority and Komsomol organs for their work in mobilizing working people and their specific contribution in guarding the state borders. Greetings are also conveyed to the fellow border guards of the socialist community's countries who are undertaking the common tasks of guarding socialism; and to veteran Border Troops, and to the parents of these heroic young men.

(Ivanov) concludes by declaring that the border guards will continue to maintain and uphold the glorious traditions of securing the inviolability of the USSR's state border.